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THE TIMES

30p

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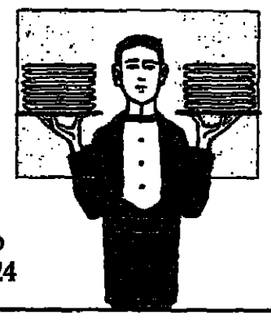

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Government climbdown

£40,000 paid to Death on Rock families

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE GOVERNMENT has paid almost £40,000 to relatives of three IRA members who were shot dead by the SAS in Gibraltar, it emerged yesterday.

The legal costs were paid on Christmas Eve after the victory by the relatives of Mairead Farrell, Sean Savage and Daniel McCann at the European Court of Human Rights in September.

The court instructed the Government to meet the costs of bringing the case to Strasbourg after ruling the so-called "Death on the Rock" killings breached Article 2 of the European Convention of Human Rights. It rejected relatives' claims for compensation, adding it was not persuaded the killings constituted a use of force "no more than absolutely necessary".

Yesterday Ministers were forced on to the defensive as the families of the shot terrorists said the payments proved the Government had accepted the guilt of SAS soldiers.

In September, Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, reacted furiously to the court decision, saying it was incomprehensible and ludicrous and would "give succour to terrorism". He refused to commit the Government to paying the costs, saying: "We shall do absolutely nothing about it."

Mr Heseltine had said Ministers would consider withdrawing Britain's recognition of the European Convention on Human Rights in protest.

Lawyers of the terrorists' families sent a formal complaint about Mr Heseltine's remarks to the European Council of Ministers.

The payment came just before the expiry of a three-month deadline.

Niall Farrell, a brother of Mairead Farrell, said: "This is a clear indication that the British Government now accepts the verdict of the highest human rights court in Europe that they unlawfully killed, or in plain English murdered, our loved ones.

"Despite declaring it would not recognise the court last September, despite all the chauvinistic, bloodthirsty statements and slogans issued by countless British Ministers, the British Government had to face the stark reality that either they accept they are guilty or face ostracism as a terrorist state. "They chose to admit their guilt," he added.

Foreign Office sources were adamant yesterday that the Government had not planned to defy the court ruling, although Ministers remain highly critical. They also repeated the Government's view that the judgment had been reached only on a 10-9 majority and that claims for compensation had been rejected.

Officials have also made clear the legal costs payment is not an admission of guilt, simply an act of compliance.

Jack Straw, Labour's Shadow Home Secretary, had demanded Britain follow the letter and spirit of the court's findings. He said yesterday: "This shows, as the Labour Party said at the time, that the Government would have to abide by the rule of law. Mr Heseltine was wrong to suggest otherwise."

Sir Richard Body, Conservative MP for Holland with Boston, said last night: "We are simply asking for trouble by paying this money. There is no legal obligation to comply ... and we have handed the IRA the handle of a stick to beat the Government with.

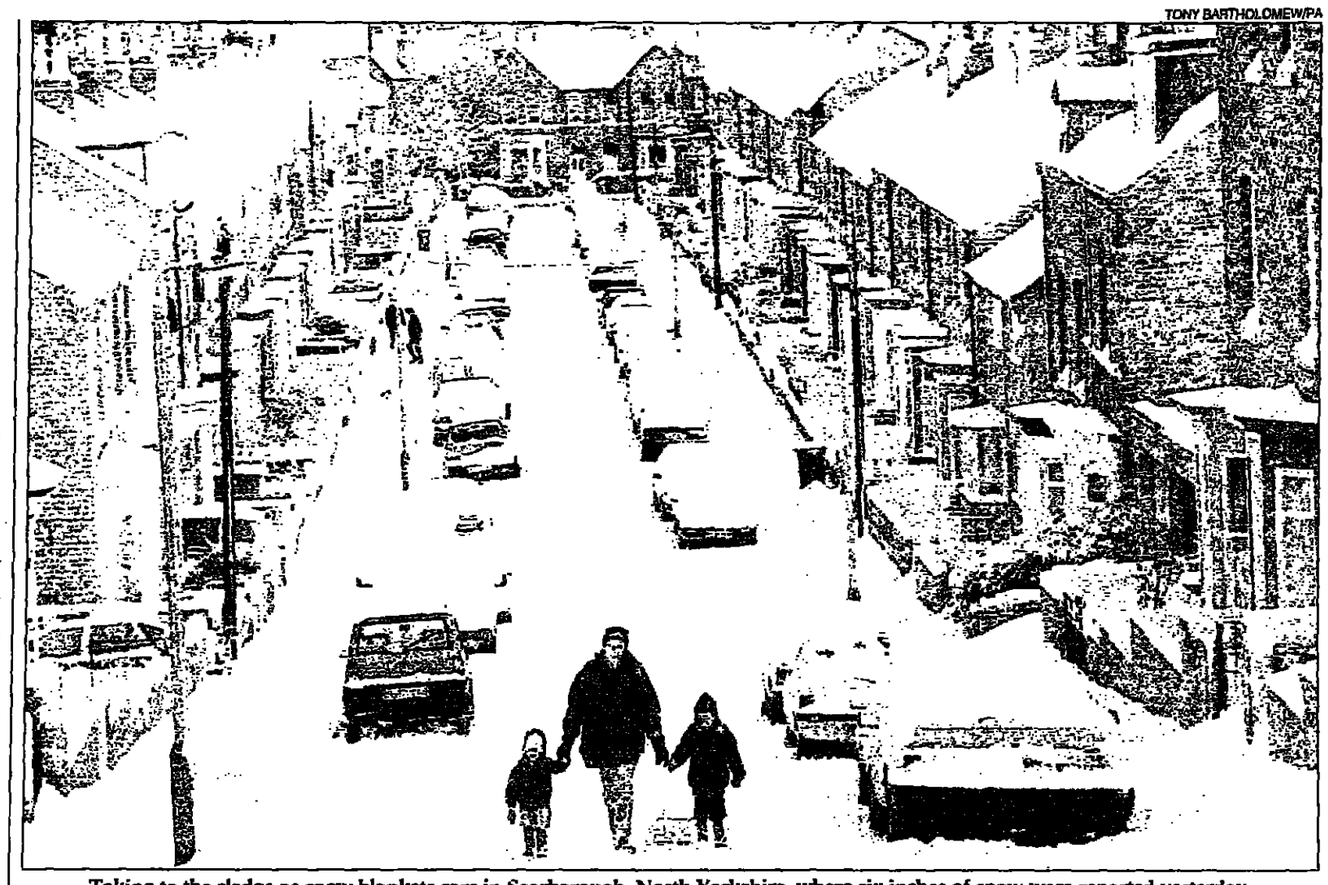
"The next stage will be an attempt by the IRA to claim money from Ministers."

The unarmed IRA members were shot after an undercover operation by the British authorities, who said the trio planned a car bomb attack. No explosives were found.

A formal complaint about the government response to the judgment is with the Council of Ministers of the Council of Europe, which is responsible for implementing the verdict.

Heseltine: refused to agree to legal costs

TONY BARTHOLOMEW/PA



Taking to the sledge as snow blankets cars in Scarborough, North Yorkshire, where six inches of snow were reported yesterday.

Icy Shetlands in state of emergency

BY PETER FOSTER AND DOMINIC KENNEDY

THE SHETLAND Islands declared a state of emergency yesterday as more snow was forecast after four days of blizzards, and 2,700 homes across Scotland remained without power.

Around the country freezing temperatures kept many at home, while the Boxing Day sporting calendar, traditionally one of the highlights of the year, was wrecked. The London Weather Centre said much of England and Wales will today struggle to get above freezing.

There will be snow on the east coast of England and in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, it will remain very cold with snow and sunny spells until the weekend.

Shetland Islands Council declared a state of emergency at lunchtime yesterday as all roads remained blocked to ordinary vehicles. Snowploughs worked all day to smash through huge drifts and succeeded in opening the 70-mile main spinal road from Sumburgh to Unst, for emergency traffic only.

Hydro Electric flew in engineers by helicopter, but by nightfall 1,426 people still had no electricity 72 hours after they were first cut off. One shop in Lerwick opened and immediately sold out of portable electricity generators and camping gas.

Kenneth Nicolson, 74, and his wife Annabella, 73, who live in Guershader, near Stornoway, have been without power since Saturday. They said it had been their worst Christmas. "The house is freezing — it's so cold we can't sleep," Mr Nicolson said. "We had cold sandwiches for Christmas dinner."

Malcolm Green, chief executive of Shetland Islands Council, said he had activated the council's emergency plan because the weather was getting worse. "We're managing to keep some of the main roads open, but they're all down to single track now with snow accumulating at the side of the road," he said.

Mr Green appealed for volunteers with four-wheel drive vehicles and tractors to register with the council today.

The plan is to use them to deliver emergency supplies of food and bottled gas to the many houses still completely cut off, with isolated old people the priority.

Shetland Coastguard's rescue helicopter made two air ambulance trips to take seriously ill patients to hospital, and a fishing boat took a pregnant woman from the island of Whalsay to Lerwick. Calum MacDonald, MP for the Western Isles, will meet leaders of the privatised Hydro-Electric company to ask if job cuts had left too few staff available for the crisis during the holiday period.

Fresh snow showers continued to cause havoc on all roads in the north and north-east. In Grampian, the main A96 road between Aberdeen and Inverness was blocked in several places, and the A90 route to the south from Aberdeen was also badly affected by drifting snow.

The port of Whitby, North Yorkshire, was cut off by heavy drifting. People were told to stay in their homes after the two roads into the town were buried under sev

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Tessas pay for exotic trips

Sales of long-haul holidays are booming as thousands of savers treat themselves using earnings from tax exempt special savings accounts (Tessas) which mature in the new year, releasing more than £20 billion of funds that have been locked up in banks and building societies for the past five years.

December bookings for Caribbean, Far East and South African destinations are two to three times higher than the same time last year.....Page 3

Halifax forecasts housing recovery

The Halifax Building Society, Britain's largest mortgage lender, is forecasting a 2 per cent recovery in house prices during 1996.

In its annual housing market paper it predicts that next year will see the fragile market starting to emerge from the recession.....Page 40

31 defendants freed as the prosecution takes a day off

BY JOANNA BALE

THIRTY-ONE defendants accused of crimes ranging from supplying drugs to burglary walked free from court yesterday when the Crown Prosecution Service failed to supply anyone to prosecute them.

The defendants, many of whom were held in custody over the weekend, will have to be re-arrested by the police if they are to be charged again.

Only three courts in Inner London and a handful around the country sit on Boxing Day to deal with defendants arrested over the Christmas holiday. Michael Johnstone, a stipendiary magistrate, sat at Old Street Magistrates' Court in east London at 10.30 am yesterday prepared to hear a full day's list of cases. Court officials told him no one from the CPS had turned up, and that they had been unable to find out why. Mr Johnstone, clearly annoyed, said: "Well, this won't take much time at all then. I'll have to get each one in and discharge them."

As each defendant was called into the dock in Court One, Mr Johnstone read out names and charges and asked: "Is anyone here to prosecute this person?" A resounding silence followed, and he told each one: "You are discharged and free to go."

Only one unlucky defendant failed to benefit from the belated Christmas present when a policeman appeared to give prosecution evidence against him. He was remanded in custody charged with conspiracy to defraud.

At the end of the hearings, which took just an hour to deal with, Mr Johnstone said: "This has been almost a complete waste of time. I shall obviously be taking this matter up with the CPS."

Liz Justice, a CPS spokeswoman, said last night: "Our case worker for that area of London, who would have got the duty lawyer to court, was not notified that it was sitting on Boxing Day, so it appears that a phone call or a letter from the court may have gone astray. The blame does not automatically lie with us."

French say too many pupils learn English

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

FRENCH sensitivity at the inexorable spread of "Anglo-Saxon culture" has been reawakened by a parliamentary report denouncing the "crushing hegemony" of English in the country's classrooms.

Published by the French Senate's cultural affairs commission just before Christmas, the report said that too many schoolchildren studied English to the detriment of other "great European languages", notably German.

For a nation anxious to promote a sense of European culture, the situation is worrying. But there is worse. Although French is "the classic language of the elite", it too is suffering under the weight of Anglo-Saxon dominance, the report said. As a result, fewer children in other countries studied French.

According to the commission, no country offered its schoolchildren as wide a choice of foreign languages as France, with 12 options on offer from the age of 13. However, the diversity is theoretical. More than 86 per cent of secondary school pupils opt for English as their main foreign language, which they study for up to five hours a week from the age of 11.

A majority choose Spanish as their second foreign language, with three hours of lessons a week from the age of 13. German, on the other hand, is declining in popularity.

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You can be a genius — if you put your mind to it

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

GENIUS owes more to graft than being gifted, according to research carried out at Exeter University.

Professor Michael Howe, a psychologist specialising in the study of high achievers, has identified diligence, self-confidence and a stable family background as common features. He has found little evidence of innate gifts or even of universally high intelligence.

In a book on talent development, the Professor says that while some, such as Einstein and John Stuart Mill, would have exceptional scores in IQ tests, others would not have fared well. "A possible inference would be that not all geniuses are highly intelligent. A more sensible deduction would be that the single dimension of intelligence assessed in IQ tests fails to do justice to the range and variety of people's intelligence," he said.

Few were prodigies, and almost all took several years to produce their best work, Professor Howe claims. A survey of the work of 76 of the world's leading composers undertaken by J. R. Hayes, an American academic, in 1981, showed all but three were ten years into their career before they wrote their major works.

More recent research has reached similar conclusions when it comes to chess players, scientists and engineers.

Professor Howe examined scores of biographies to supplement the findings of a seven-year study of young musicians at Cheetham's School of Music in Manchester. Both confirm research suggesting exceptional ability emerges through lengthy talent honing. The Cheetham's project found that supportive parents and good relationships with first teachers were the most common features.

Professor Howe writes, in *Actualising Talent*: "Factors like hard and sustained work, practice, motivation, enjoyment of what one is doing, sufficient intelligence, self-confidence, perseverance, having the right temperament and attentiveness are all vital if a person is to become capable of major human achievements."

Leading article, page 17

Einstein: IQ score would be exceptional

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Industry spared licences

Howard halts plans to vet security firms for 'cowboys'

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Home Secretary has bowed to pressure from Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, to reject plans to bar convicted criminals and other "cowboy operators" from the private security industry.

Michael Howard came under heavy cross-party pressure last summer to introduce laws requiring security firms to be registered and for a licensing system to prevent convicted criminals working as security guards.

However, Mr Howard has been warned by cabinet colleagues, including Mr Heseltine, that forcing firms to set up extra vetting procedures would be contrary to the Government's drive to deregulate business.

Mr Heseltine and Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, have persuaded Mr Howard to delay the planned legislation and instead encourage the industry to tighten its code of conduct.

The unregulated growth of the industry — which has doubled in size over the past 20 years — has led to severe problems, with several employees with past convictions being involved in serious acts of violence.

In one case a guard for a security firm was found to be an escaped prisoner serving a sentence for murder.

After months of discussions, Mr Howard is now preparing to warn senior Tories that there is no prospect of a new Bill being introduced in the current Parliament, making it highly unlikely that there will be a change in the law before a general election.

Mr Howard will reply shortly to a detailed report by the Conservative-dominated Home Affairs Select Committee, which pressed for urgent changes to curb widespread abuses by security firms.

The MPs demanded that employees should be licensed to help curb the rise in the number of "unsuitable" people in the contract guarding industry. The Commons report also called for a statutory regulation system for the contract guarding sector.

Home Office officials say that Mr Howard is worried about proposals for private security companies to have access to national criminal records as a way of vetting employees. He is also concerned about protests from civil liberties campaigners at the committee's suggestion that people employed in private security services should be exempt from laws which prevent disclosure of some past convictions.

Supporters of Mr Heseltine say that the decision to veer away from new laws underlines his success in introducing a "culture of deregulation" throughout government. Mr Heseltine was adamant that he retained control of his deregulation initiative when he was made Deputy Prime Minister last July.

One Whitehall source said: "Deregulation is now spreading across departments in a way it has not in the past. Ministers are looking at the real effects of new laws on businesses and asking themselves whether there might be more effective, but less bureaucratic ways of introducing improvements."

Mr Howard's best hope of introducing changes would have been within a Crime Bill, but in the absence of such a piece of legislation in the current session, there is little possibility of new laws.

There had been suggestions that an individual MP might be able to introduce new laws through a private member's Bill, but the Home Office indicated the Government was unlikely to back such legislation.

Early-bird shoppers boost Boxing Day sales

BY ROBIN YOUNG

BARGAIN hunters made a brisk start at the sales yesterday as furniture stores and DIY shops reported an encouraging increase on takings over last year.

Philip Cunningham of MFI, the furniture retailers, said: "We have been very busy. There is a lot of activity, and kitchens and bedroom fittings have been selling particularly well. The first day of the sale has to be huge for us and we are looking for a very impressive result. Things are going really well."

Ian Shields, of Fraser's department store in Edinburgh, said: "We have had a fantastic day. There were 200 people queueing when we opened which got us off to a good start, and it has not slackened since. Even after dark it was still going strong. We will very definitely be up on last year."

In London, Maples claimed to have had its longest queues for the 10am start of the furniture sale at its Tottenham Court Road shop. Almost 200 people stood in a line winding round the store.

One London couple, who declined to give their names, had waited for 12 hours to buy a chair and stool for £499, a saving of £500. The "early birds' window", a display of goods at half price or less along the store's frontage, was cleared in the first 30 minutes of trading.

"That is previously unheard of," the store's spokeswoman, Juliette Hellman, said. "They just demolished the whole display."

By the end of the day, Mrs Hellman said, the store thought it had exceeded last year's takings by a fifth. "It has been a really good first day and they have beaten their target," she said.

At Maples' new store in Preston, Lancashire, the manager, Derek Spink, said: "We opened today with a sale, and it has been a baptism of fire. As soon as we cut the ribbon people were flooding into the car park. We have really been extremely busy and we have beaten our trading target."

A spokeswoman for B&Q said that stores around the country reported good business, especially in clearances of Christmas decorations. "Some people are already preparing for next year."

In some suburbs though, things were inexplicably quiet. The manager of Wickes in Cricklewood, north London, did not have a paying customer at his store in the first half hour; at the Ealing branch the only visitor to approach sales staff in the first 90 minutes was a woman who had ordered a kitchen before Christmas and wanted the discount she had seen advertised.

"She has not had the kitchen delivered yet," Veronica Hannon, the store manager, said, "so she will be getting the reduction."

Martin Barnett, of the Marble Arch Association representing some 350 shops, said: "This looks like being the most successful winter sales for four years. The stores around here that have opened have done very well, though most of the customers seem to have been foreign tourists. The Russians and French have been coming in, butthe English still seem to be on holiday."

Many leading department stores in the West End of London and around the country start their sales today with reductions of up to 50 per cent on many lines.

Sales strategy, pages 14, 15

David, left, and John Fowler have queued since Christmas Day in Newcastle upon Tyne for a suite of furniture

Mother dies with daughter in fire rescue bid

BY JOANNA BALE

A WOMAN and her young daughter died yesterday when fire swept through their farmhouse in Wales. Heather Jackson, 27, had gone back inside to rescue the two-year-old girl as her husband Michael ran half a mile through deep snow to their nearest neighbour to raise the alarm.

The couple had earlier managed to escape the blazing house with their two elder children. Firemen found Mrs Jackson, who had been overcome by smoke and heat, lying next to the body of her daughter in the main bedroom. The family had moved to the four-bedroomed stone farmhouse six weeks ago.

Chris Coffin, landlord of the Wern Inn in the village of Llanybri, near Carmarthen, Dyfed, said yesterday: "It's a terrible tragedy. They were a lovely family and everyone is in a state of shock here.

"The family had only just moved in and worked hard to get the house done up for Christmas. Heather was a really nice woman who doted on her children. It is just like her to go back into the house.

"The phone was cut off by the fire and Michael had to run to get help. The house is so remote that it took him a good while to raise the alarm. But by the time he got back Heather was trapped in the house with the baby."

Mr Jackson, 27, a bus driver, was treated in West Wales General hospital at Carmarthen, Dyfed, for cuts, burns and shock. He was badly gashed after smashing windows to escape. His youngest daughter, who died, celebrated her second birthday last week. The couple's two other daughters, aged four and six, were not hurt and are being cared for by relatives.

Villagers said that Mr Jackson had been born in the house and his parents had recently moved out. They gave their home to their son and his family and moved two miles away. Fire officers are still investigating the cause of the blaze, which broke out in a children's bedroom at 8am.

Blizzards give ski resorts a lift

BY PETER FOSTER

HEAVY snow has given Scottish ski resorts better conditions than some European destinations. Four of Scotland's five resorts were open for sport yesterday as blue skies and calm winds returned to the Highlands after the Christmas blizzards.

Temperatures fell as low as -12C (10F) and overhead conditions for snowboarding and skiing were described as excellent. Access roads to many centres had to be cleared before skiing could begin but in the Cairngorm Mountains near Aviemore five lifts were working by mid-morning.

Piste-flattening machines worked all day packing down the snow to make a base for runs which remained narrow in several places, despite the recent snowfalls. At the Nevis Range Centre, near Fort William, several runs remained closed because of a lack of snow.

Gales were blamed for blowing fresh falls off the slopes. A spokesman for the centre, which has spent £750,000 on new lifts and other facilities, said that it remained optimistic as further snow was forecast for the next few days.

Only Glencoe could offer no skiing but resorts in the area predicted that fresh snowfalls would enable them to be active within the next few days. On the Continent, skiing holidays were saved by snowfalls across the French, Swiss and Austrian Alps. In Val-d'Isère, France, a spokesman said that the winter had arrived a month late but in time for the Christmas rush. The snow was still falling at midday on Boxing Day as the resort reported 60-70cm (2ft-2ft 3½in) at 2,000 metres.

At Klosters in Switzerland over a third of lifts were open, with snow depths of 80cm on higher slopes. Snow conditions are expected to deteriorate later in the week as warmer Mediterranean air pushes north across the range.

Shetlands emergency

Continued from page 1

eral feet of snow. In Selby, firemen were called to rescue a swan trapped in ice on a pond. Six inches of snow were reported in the resort of Scarborough.

A dawn blizzard left parts of North Wales with up to eight inches of snow, making it difficult for ambulances to get patients to hospitals. Dyfed-Powys police said motorists should only travel in emergencies. In the uplands of mid-Wales some isolated farms were cut off.

The big freeze also took a firm grip on Northern Ireland amid warnings it would last to the New Year.

Temperatures of minus 10 were recorded overnight with predictions from weathermen that they would fall to minus 12 in some places last night.

Half-an-inch of snow had fallen on Kent by early yesterday evening. There were light snow showers in Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire and Essex. The London Weather Centre predicted further modest snowfall in the region for the rest of the week, although the showers would die out quickly as they travelled inland. London had the possibility of a little snow.

"Anything east of the Greenwich Meridian that sticks into the North Sea is where it is going to be," the Met Office said.

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tell me one good thing about your bank

Rifkind ponders ambassadorial role for Princess

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Princess of Wales's wish to become a roving ambassador for Britain could be granted provided a suitable role could be found which conforms with the wishes of the Queen.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, said yesterday that senior ministers would consider carefully the possibility of creating an informal role for the Princess which would enable her to promote Britain's overseas interests. However, Mr Rifkind appeared to underline the Foreign Office's known concerns about the Princess being given a formal ambassadorial position under its direct control.

In the first public comments made by the Government on the Princess's declared ambition to act as an ambassador, Mr Rifkind was unspecific about the precise arrangements that might be made. However, he was at pains to emphasise that it would not mean her taking on a Foreign Office position. "Ambassador has both a technical meaning but it also has a more general meaning that is sometimes used of someone who helps advance the interests of the country they belong to.

"These are issues we need to consider and they will be considered quite properly taking into account the wishes of Her Majesty the Queen. That is the single most important consideration," he told BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme.

Rifkind: wishes of Queen the most important

The Princess made clear her ambitions to take on an ambassadorial role when she was interviewed for BBC1's *Panorama* programme. She travelled to Argentina last month.

John Major has played a significant role in negotiations between the Palace and the Princess since she made her comments. Mr Rifkind yesterday emphasised the extreme sensitivity of the negotiations surrounding the Princess's future role. "I think we are at a very delicate moment with regard to the future of the Prince and Princess," he said. "I don't think it is helpful at this moment to speculate."

BBC claims an early triumph in ratings war

BY LEYLA LINTON

THE BBC maintained its traditional dominance of Christmas Day viewing, capturing 54 per cent of the audience against ITV's 25 per cent according to unofficial figures. Nine of the top ten programmes were on BBC; only *Coronation Street* made it into the top ten for ITV.

ITV claimed a victory on Christmas Eve, however, with 37 per cent of the viewers against 30 per cent for the corporation.

A total of 13.7 million viewers switched on for the Queen's message on Christmas Day, according to the early unaudited figures, compared with 14.6 million last year and 28 million ten years ago. Eleven million people chose to watch her on BBC against 2.7 million on ITV.

One Foot in the Grave topped the ratings with 16.8 million viewers. The concluding episode of a two-part EastEnders was second with 16.1 million viewers, while the surburban snob Hyacinth Bucket in *Keeping Up Appearances* attracted 16 million. The first part of EastEnders came fourth with 14.3 million.

ITV's only top ten entry, *Coronation Street*, claimed sixth place with 11.8 million viewers.

The BBC said: "Despite ITV's best efforts, we have once again grabbed the lion's share of audience figures. In the past 11 years, except one, we have had the top programme at Christmas."

Marcus Plantin, ITV network director, said: "The BBC always saves its top programming for the Chrismas period and traditionally the BBC does beat us on Christmas Day, but we scored a victory on Christmas Eve this year. Last year they claimed 53 per cent for Christmas Eve and I am delighted we have done more than give them a run for their money. So far the honours are shared over the two days."

Television, page 39

TV TOP TEN

One Foot in the Grave (BBC1, 9.00 pm)	16.8 m
EastEnders 2 (BBC1, 8.30 pm)	16.1 m
Keeping Up Appearances (BBC1, 9.00 pm)	16 m
EastEnders 1 (BBC1, 7.30 pm)	14.3 m
Hook (BBC1, 4.30 pm)	12.1 m
Christmas in Coronation St (ITV, 6.30 pm)	11.8 m
Indecent Proposal (BBC1, 10.10 pm)	11.3 m
The Queen's Speech (BBC1, 3.00 pm)	11 m
Noel's Christmas Presents (BBC1, 3.10 pm)	10.1 m
Auntie's New Bloomers (BBC1, 6.45 pm) and Only Fools and Horses (BBC1, 1.55 pm)	9.5 m

French say too many pupils learn English

Continued from page 1

ty, largely because pupils consider it too difficult, the report said. Less than 12 per cent choose it as their main language and 21 per cent as their second language.

Other languages, such as Russian and Chinese, are in danger of extinction, the commission said, arguing for new policies to promote such "minority" tongues in schools. That, it said, would prompt other countries to back French with greater determination, so reversing the decline of French across the world.

"France has a vocation to propose to its European partners an audacious linguistic project to the extent that our language, supported by a prestigious past as well as a global diffusion ... possesses a particular political dimension," the report from the Senate said.

Despite that "vocation", the commission added that little could be done to end the dominance of English, which, it said, had a role similar to that of Greek in antiquity. "The weight of Anglo-Saxon 'culture' is such that, whatever happens, pupils will be tempted to learn this language at some time or another."

However, it urged measures to limit "*l'hégémonie de l'anglais*". Notably, it questioned moves to start teaching a foreign language to seven-year-olds, saying that that tended to underscore the importance of English.

Although the Government has not yet said whether it will act on the report, there is little doubt that its conclusions will meet approval in President Chirac's Gaullist movement. But ministers will be careful, mindful of the mishaps suffered last year by Jacques Toubon, who was then Culture Minister.

He proposed a law restricting the use of foreign words — in practice, English — in the media, only to find himself ridiculed by the press and criticised by legal experts. The Cabinet will not want to repeat that experience.

Roger Bowers, Assistant Director-General of the British Council, said that the appeal of English to students as a foreign language lay not in its heritage but in its usefulness for using telecommunications and Microsoft.

Two million collect up to £14,000

Maturing Tessas fuel upsurge in long-haul holidays

BY JONATHAN PRYNN AND PATRICIA TEHAN

TESSAS were introduced five years ago to encourage thrift. But according to travel agents, the maturing Tax Exempt Special Savings Accounts are providing a windfall in luxury holiday bookings.

While John Major's dream of encouraging the feelgood factor at home has foundered, his tax-free savings initiative, announced in the Budget of March 1990, is paying dividends for those who dreamt of escaping Britain for the beaches of the Caribbean and the Bahamas.

The first Tessas were taken out in January 1991, and up to £9,000 could be invested, tax free, over five years, provided the money remained untouched. The policies mature in the new year, when two million people will receive up to £14,000 each. Only the original £9,000 can be reinvested in another Tessa.

According to travel agents, Tessas are behind an unprecedented surge in demand for glamorous long-haul destinations in the Caribbean, the Far East and South Africa at a time when most of the travel industry is in deep recession.

"I do believe that the release of the Tessas is being reflected in the real boom in the long-haul holiday market," Nigel Hands, retail director at Thomas Cook, said. "Our own long-haul tour operator is having the most successful period in its history for this time of year.

"Booking are being made now with the holidays paid for out of Tessa earnings in the new year," he said.

Keith Betton, of the Association of British Travel Agents, said Tessa windfalls were the most likely explanation for the current boom.

"If you get your hands on that kind of money you are going to either spend it or save it. Any sudden injection of cash coming into the economy at this time of year traditionally benefits the travel industry. About 25 per cent of holidays are booked in January or February and from Boxing Day the television screens are filled with people saying, 'Buy your holidays now'."

Betton: puts bookings down to Tessa windfall

December bookings for long-haul holidays next year are two to three times higher than the same time last year, while reservations for foreign holidays as a whole are down by about 30 per cent.

The windfall money is typically being spent on two-week holidays in the Carribean, Hong Kong, Thailand, Bali, the Philippines, Canada and on Nile cruises. The cost averages £1,000 to £2,000 per head.

The Tessa bonanza in the long-haul holiday market contrasts with the doldrums in the rest of the industry, which was hit last year by a near-fatal combination of price-cutting and lovely summer weather in Britain.

The main travel companies are offering more than 1.5 million fewer holidays than last year in an attempt to keep prices at profitable levels, although some discounts are available for early bookers.

MARTIN BEDDALL

This mongrel puppy, being cared for yesterday by staff at Battersea Dogs' Home in south London, was one of 17 pets for whom the season of goodwill came to an abrupt end on Christmas Day. The charity is expecting to take in many more pets in the new year, abandoned as unwanted Christmas presents (Leyla Linton writes). Stephen Danos, a spokesman for the home, said: "People will realise in about three weeks' time that they cannot look after their new dog, or even sadder, they will abandon their old dog in favour of the new one. There will be a spate of well-groomed dogs." An RSPCA spokeswoman said that the organisation's annual campaign urging people not to give pets as presents did not reduce the strain on the charity after Christmas. "We have run this campaign for several years now but there is always an upsurge in the number of dogs roaming the streets in January," she said. "There has been a slight decline over the past few years suggesting a few people have taken notice but unwanted dogs are still a big problem for us each January."

Father joins the hunt for missing French teenager

BY JOANNA BALE

THE father of a French girl feared abducted by a lorry driver has travelled to Britain to help detectives hunt for his daughter amid growing concern that she may have been murdered. Bernard Figard, a farmer, has helped police draw up a profile of his daughter Celine, 19, who disappeared last week on a visit to see her cousin in the New Forest, Hampshire, after hitching a lift.

The accountancy student has been missing for seven days and detectives have stepped up their investigation to a murder inquiry. The number of officers working on the case has been more than doubled to 100. Detective Superintendent Des Thomas, who is leading the hunt, said he was gravely concerned for Celine's safety. He said her father felt bereft and was anxious to help police as much as possible. M Figard travelled from his home southeast of Paris with family members but his wife was too ill to make the journey. He make a public appeal today for the lorry driver to come forward. Mr Thomas said: "Celine's father will be working with us for as long as we feel it is useful. It must be frustrating for him because he can't physically do anything himself. He is bereft and suffering anguish for his daughter. Celine's mother was not able to travel because she is unwell and the symptoms have been exacerbated by the stress of this case."

Celine Figard: accepted lift from lorry driver

A French-speaking English detective is working from the incident room and acting as interpreter. Detectives have issued a sketch and video-fit of the ginger-haired driver who has a distinctive chin-strap style beard with no moustache.

Celine disappeared after accepting a lift from the driver at the Granada service station on the A34 at Chieveley, near Newbury, Berkshire. She was due to spend Christmas with her cousin, Jean-Marc Figard, 24, a head-waiter at the Ashburn Hotel, at Fordingbridge, in the New Forest. He raised the alarm at 8.30pm last Tuesday when Celine failed to arrive at the hotel, where she worked as a waitress last summer.

Celine's disappearance has similarities to the murder of another foreign hitchhiker 30 miles away. Finnish-born Eila Karjalainen's body was found off the A34 at Woodstock, Oxfordshire, four months after she was kidnapped in August 1983 but nobody was charged with her murder. Mr Thomas said he could not rule out a possible link with Miss Karjalainen's killing.

Woman, 83, unconscious after street robbery

BY JOANNA BALE

AN ELDERLY woman was seriously ill last night after being attacked and robbed in the early hours of Boxing Day.

Evelyn Stanford, 83, who suffered a fractured skull and has remained unconscious since the attack at 12.30am yesterday, was found lying on the pavement half a mile from her home in Wolverhampton.

She is being treated in an intensive care unit at the town's Royal Hospital, where her condition was described as critical.

Detective Inspector Phil Thompson, of West Midlands Police, said that Mrs Stanford, who lives alone, had been subject to a "nasty and brutal" attack. There was no evidence of a weapon having been used. It seemed likely that the motive was robbery.

"We don't know what she was doing out so late, but we do know she had spent part of Christmas Day with her family." Mr Thompson said. "We don't know if she then visited someone else. We need to know her movements before she was attacked.

"She was fit and independent, but absolutely defenceless and the whole matter is very distressing."

Mr Thompson said that a motorist had spotted Mrs Stanford carrying a bag just before the attack. After dropping off a relative, the motorist returned to Goldthorn Hill, where he found her lying motionless with blood coming from her head and her bag missing.

Mr Thompson said: "We would like to appeal to anyone who was out and about at that time of night to report anything suspicious that they saw, however trivial."

Pressure to succeed makes a failure of Surrey marriages

BY LEYLA LINTON

CAREER pressures and the strain of commuting are to blame for the stockbroker belt having the highest divorce rate in Europe, according to the Mothers' Union in Guildford.

Forty per cent of marriages in Surrey end in failure, higher than any other part of the country, which ranks alongside Denmark for having the highest divorce rate in the European Union, delegates at a conference in Guildford were told.

Anne Fraser, president of the Guildford Diocese Mothers' Union, one of the conference organisers, said the problem stemmed from the county's affluent lifestyle. "This area is perceived as being very rich with a lot of high-achievers and well-paid jobs. This puts a great deal of pressure on those living here who do not necessarily fit into this picture," she said.

"Even those couples in good jobs are finding it increasingly difficult to stay together as the demands of work and the long hours involved in high-powered posts take their toll on marriages."

The conference, *The Stopping Train Through Divorce and Beyond*, was also told that the time spent commuting into London and travelling abroad on business were a significant factor in the break-up of marriages.

Mrs Fraser added: "Young people are particularly vulnerable as they often have limited funds and frequently struggle to find the work for which they are qualified." Sharon Pilkington, co-organiser of the conference, said there was no single reason why divorce rates were so high in Surrey, but the constant pressure to succeed played a large part. "In the South East especially there is a great deal of pressure to always achieve and to go up the next rung of the ladder. This can put massive strain on any marriage," she said.

"We live in an increasingly throwaway society in which people discard anything they do not like, and that includes their relationships. People should be given some sort of pre-marriage counselling so they know exactly what they are getting into, but there is no easy solution to the problem."

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Teacher who was murdered saving pupil is voted Personality of the Year by BBC listeners

Headmaster's widow calls for crusade on violence

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

THE widow of Philip Lawrence, the murdered headmaster voted Personality of the Year, called on Britain's leaders yesterday to launch a moral crusade against violence.

Frances Lawrence, whose husband received 23,130 votes from listeners to BBC Radio 4's *Today*, suggested a forum of politicians, arts representatives, church leaders and members of the public to raise contemporary values to a spiritual plane.

Mr Lawrence, who was stabbed to death protecting a pupil outside St George's Roman Catholic comprehensive school in inner London on December 8, beat the Prime Minister into second place in the poll. Mrs Lawrence said the 4,000 letters of support received since her husband's murder had comforted her family.

"One realises that the dreadful things are in the minority, that most people are appalled at what happened," she said.

"That's very comforting, because when one is faced with what we were faced with on that Friday night, the world becomes an evil place, but now one can feel that it's not, that it's mostly good." In a soft, measured voice, she appealed for action beyond the banning of knives. "I would like to see the Government and those people who shape society go much further," she said.

"I would like to see — without sounding too grandiose — some sort of forum established, with people like politicians, people from the arts and the Church and ordinary people getting together and trying to re-evaluate what on earth is going on in society now, to try to provide a framework, a guidance for people away from what I know Philip thought of as an obsessive drive toward personal possession back to spiritual values that make people happy and at peace with one another.

"I am probably sounding simplistic as well as grandiose but I think that it's not enough to get rid of knives. That won't get rid of violence. We have really got to attack it on a more basic level. The time is long overdue."

She said: "Philip had a tremendous *joie de vivre*, tremendous vitality and energy which he was able to communicate. He was passionately interested in all kinds of things — politics, the arts, science, religion — but most of all he was very interested in people and I think people felt this genuine interest.

"He always saw the good in people. He thought that every human being had unique gifts which we should nurture. At the same time he challenged people to give of their best. One would sit up and think 'Yes, now, why didn't I think of that?'.

"I have had such sweet letters from the children at St George's which show that already they have an extraordinary understanding of all that Philip was trying to teach them and a great compassion and in a lot of the letters a great drive to improving society."

Mrs Lawrence was asked whether her husband had done the right thing and acted bravely. "I can't really answer the question," she said, "because Philip wouldn't have acted any other way." Asked if she regretted what her husband had done, she replied: "It was Philip. I can't regret anything that he was or did."

MIKE STEPHENS

Frances Lawrence and her son Lucien, 8, by their Christmas tree. The family has had 4,000 letters of support

Lawrence: 23,000 votes

Major is Today's man on Radio 4

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

ONE of the mysteries of modern politics remained unresolved yesterday when John Major again trounced Tony Blair in the annual personality poll conducted among Radio 4 *Today* listeners.

For the second year in succession, Mr Major won an overwhelming personal majority over Mr Blair, contradicting the opinion polls that consistently give the Labour leader a huge lead.

Mr Major collected 18,260 votes to come second in the telephone poll, behind Philip Lawrence, the London headmaster, while Mr Blair gathered 8,831, leaving him in fifth place, slightly ahead of the Queen Mother (8,532). Yitzhak Rabin, the murdered Prime Minister of Israel, came third with 9,772.

The Princess of Wales, in fourth place with 9,045, was *de facto* Woman of the Year.

Even allowing for a Tory bias among Radio 4 listeners, the results made gloomy reading for a Labour leader aiming to eat into the middle-class Conservative vote of southern England.

Mr Major's decision to challenge his party critics to a summer leadership election made its mark on some listeners, while many praised his continuing work in the Northern Ireland peace process. A BBC source said: "It seems that Major was seen as a 'doer' this year, while Blair has simply consolidated his position as an able opposition leader."

Mr Blair was placed third among the six contenders for the title in the Labour strongholds of the Midlands and North, but his personal support wavered elsewhere to less than half that of Mr Major. The Labour leader fared particularly poorly in London, the South East and South West, where Labour needs to gain seats to win power.

In an unexplained quirk, Mr Major topped the poll among listeners in Scotland, where Tory support has slumped to new lows, while Mr Blair fell well behind in the Labour heartlands.

Mr Blair will be heartened by results suggesting that "early-to-rise" listeners were more inclined to support him. In the telephone poll, which ran from 6.30am to 11am, Mr Blair was in third place at 7am when the programme claims its youngest, most upmarket and most male-dominated listenership.

Mr Major, who was runner-up last year to the late Roy Castle, has yet to match the domination of his predecessor, Baroness Thatcher, who was named *Today* Woman of the Year eight times during her premiership.

Car driven 14 miles on three tyres

A MAN was arrested after driving 14 miles the wrong way along a motorway with only three wheels on his car. The 65-year-old ignored drivers flashing their lights and police cars as he travelled along the M4 early yesterday with sparks flying from the front wheel hub.

The Volkswagen Jetta was finally halted near Reading when police laid spikes across the motorway to puncture the other three tyres.

The driver, from Neasden, northwest London, then crashed into the back of a police car. He was arrested on suspicion of being unfit to drive through drink or drugs and taken to Maidenhead police station.

A spokesman for Thames Valley Police said: "So far he has not given a word of explanation. The car was travelling at about 50mph on three wheels. We had a string of telephone calls from worried drivers who saw the Volkswagen bearing down on them on the wrong side of the motorway.

"Fortunately no one was injured. The motorway was much quieter than usual because it was the early hours of Boxing Day."

Girl killed after panto 'had a row'

MHAIRI JULYAN, the teenager murdered on her way home from a Christmas pantomime, may have argued with a youth on the night of her death, detectives said yesterday.

A witness has reported seeing a couple rowing outside a hotel on the London Road in Kilmarnock, where Mhairi was last seen. The girl the witness saw resembles Mhairi, 16, who was murdered on December 16. Police believe the attack was sexually motivated.

The girl was seen sitting on the wall outside the Broomhill Hotel at about 10.30pm. Her companion, who had one foot on the wall beside her, was about 17 or 18 age with very short hair. He wore a dark bomber jacket. Detective Chief Inspector Bob Lauder, who is leading the inquiry, appealed to the pair to come forward.

Another witness has reported seeing a girl who looked like Mhairi talking to a dark-haired youth outside a telephone box at the corner of nearby Melville Street. "The girl could have been Mhairi, but if it is not, we want to speak to the couple so we can eliminate them from the inquiry," said Inspector Lauder.

Death of Dino stuns rat pack

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

THE death of Dean Martin, aged 78, has somehow taken with it the era of stick-twirling crooners, velvet melodies and club-lounge camaraderie.

Martin was not the last of the Fifties "Rat Pack", nor the most gifted, but survivors yesterday seemed stunned and the tributes lacked the customary formulaic veneer.

Jerry Lewis, who often feuded with his hard-drinking former co-star, was "completely shattered and grief-stricken" by the news and could not find words for reporters awaiting him at Denver airport.

Frank Sinatra, leader of the tie-loosening fraternity, said: "Too many times I've been asked to say something about friends who are gone — this is one of the hardest. Dean was my brother, not through blood, but through choice.

"Good times and bad, we were there for each other. Our friendship has travelled down many roads over the years and there will always be a special place in my heart and soul for Dean. He has been like the air I breathe — always there, always close by."

The entertainer, a smooth-voiced baritone, received huge coverage in his passing. Despite Martin's recent physical decline, and the retreat of his music to a handful of bars and restaurants, the front page of the *New York Post* needed only two words, "Dino Dead".

Television news channels devoted much airtime to clips of the movies in which Martin was so often stooge or second string. Radio stations rescheduled their programmes to broadcast Dean Martin songs. The titles, as corny as they were smoochy, evoked the old times: *Send Me The Pillow That You Dream On*, *Volare* and *That's Amore*.

Commentators remarked that Martin's talent was to make everything look easy, his languid finger-snapping accompanied by a liquid swing of the wrist. He achieved great commercial success, yet Martin preferred spontaneity to the rigours of rehearsal.

Obituaries, page 19

Dean Martin: made entertaining look easy

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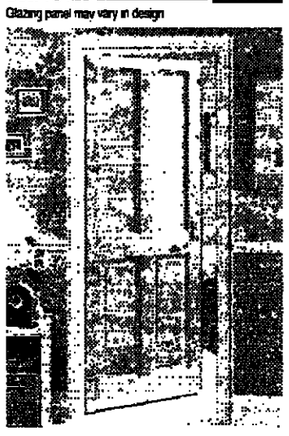

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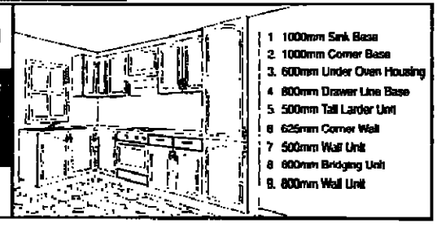

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Boxing Day huntsmen seek solace in stirrup cup as weather keeps hounds and harriers at bay

Big freeze is cold comfort for foxes and saboteurs

By Michael Hornsby, countryside correspondent

FREEZING weather proved a better opponent of hunting than bands of hunt saboteurs as dozens of meets were abandoned yesterday.

More than 180 hunts turned out but with temperatures barely edging above freezing, many were limited to a short trot before huntsmen decided that horses could be hurt on the rock-hard ground. Some hunts did not even mount up and instead made the most of mulled wine in public houses.

The weather hit hunts in Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire the hardest. Larger meets to suffer included the Bicester and Whaddon Chase in Buckinghamshire, the Aylesbury Vale Hunt and the Garth and South Berkshire Hunt at Mortimer, near Reading.

Police reported that the conditions kept incidents with animal protesters to a minimum. Hunt saboteurs shouted abuse at hunt supporters at the Portman meet in Dorset and the Albrighton Woodland meet in Hereford and Worcester. A major hunt organised by the New Forest Fox Hounds at Brockenhurst, Hampshire, went ahead without incident despite the presence of saboteurs. Few other incidents were reported.

A frontbench Labour peer gave a warning that a Labour government would face difficulty in getting a ban on hunting through Parliament. Baroness Mallalieu, a Labour spokesman on home and legal affairs in the Lords, estimated that more than half the active Labour peers were against making hunting a criminal offence. She said that this was likely to prevent such a measure reaching the statute book.

The baroness, who chairs a pro-hunting group within the Labour Party called Leave Country Sports Alone, said a Bill to ban hunting might well get through the Commons but the Lords would almost certainly want the arguments to be looked at by a select committee on a basis of fact rather than emotion.

She said: "I have to say that every time there has been a truly independent inquiry into hunting, when the arguments, which are far from simple, are examined, the conclusion has been that hunting should continue." Labour Party policy envisages a free vote in the Commons on hunting. The party is pledged to make parliamentary time for a private member's Bill if the vote were in favour of a ban.

The League Against Cruel Sports, returning to the offensive after months of internal feuding, yesterday launched a campaign highlighting the number of hounds killed on roads and railway lines during hunts. A league video and poster depicting the dying moments of a hound whose hind leg had been severed by a train were denounced as "callous, sensationalist and tasteless" by the British Field Sports Society.

The poster, unveiled on a hoarding on Vauxhall Bridge, south London, shows the fox-hound lying on a railway track near Sherborne, Dorset, after it was struck by a train last February. A member of the league who was monitoring the Blackmore and Sparkford Vale Hunt filmed the incident from a bridge over the track. According to onlookers a freight train ploughed into the pack of hounds as they chased a fox up the main Bristol to Weymouth line.

The field sports society alleged that the hounds had been enticed onto the track by a hunt saboteur blowing a horn. Janet George, a society spokeswoman, accused the league of staging a publicity stunt and of being morally bankrupt. She said: "Hunt saboteurs regularly use horns in attempts to lure hounds out of the huntsman's control, often with the intent to cause incidents or accidents which can be filmed and fed to the press."

John Bryant, head of the league's press relations, said: "This is an unwise allegation. We have 20 minutes of film footage showing hounds swarming all over the railway track with huntsmen apparently making no effort to disperse them." Ms George, accompanied by two fox-hounds from the Wheatland Hunt in Shropshire, briefly confronted Mr Bryant on the pavement opposite the hoarding and posed for photographers.

In a report entitled *Track Record*, the league estimates that 11 hounds were killed in road and rail accidents last year but claims that scores more died in unrecorded incidents. It plans to present the report to MPs.

Jim Barrington, the league's ousted executive director, was the guest of the Wheatland Hunt yesterday. He said he continued to believe that opponents of hunting should be "willing to sit down with reasonable people on the other side" to discuss ways of making hunting less cruel.

One of the main reasons for Mr Barrington's removal was an interview he gave to *The Field* in which he said that hunting would be more acceptable if hunts abandoned using terriers to dig out foxes.

BARRY BATCHELOR

Defying the weather: the Duke of Beaufort Hunt setting off at Badminton yesterday. Other meets preferred the safety of the public house

Modern women decide shooting is fair game

By Emma Wilkins

MODERN women are reaching for their guns to prove they can bag a pheasant as well as any man. Instead of trailing after their menfolk on grouse moors, increasing numbers of women are becoming expert shots with the help of gunmakers Holland & Holland.

The firm, which has a shooting ground at Northwood, Middlesex, is running courses to teach women how to master a shotgun. Instruction is also offered in the rudiments of countryside etiquette, including how much one should tip a gamekeeper (£10 per hundred birds shot) and whether or not to pot rabbits on a pheasant shoot (differs from host to host).

More than 60 applications have already been received for the course, which runs over four sessions next April and May and costs £100. Oliver Shepard, Holland & Holland's shooting manager, expects there will be up to 100 women by the time the course begins.

"Men were so chauvinist about shooting that some wouldn't even let women go on shoots even up to five years ago," he said. "It's quite ridiculous because in the history of shooting women have always taken part. Victorian ladies held their own shoots especially for women with no men allowed.

"Now women want to learn to shoot because they don't just want to traipse along behind husbands and boyfriends. They want to have a go at the sport themselves."

Mr Shepard, who was Sir Ranulph Fiennes's exploring partner and accompanied him on his record-breaking trans-globe expedition, offers instruction in all aspects of going on a shoot, down to what to pack when you set off.

"We teach women how to dress (tweeds not jeans) and what to take — loo roll, a hip flask and chocolate," he said.

Pippa Kidson-Trigg, 23, decided to learn how to shoot to annoy her brother. She first picked up a gun on her parent's farm in Wiltshire as a little girl but was frightened by the recoil of the 12-bore shotgun. Women on the shooting course are given 20 or 28-bore shotguns, which have less of a kick-back.

"I have lots of girlfriends whose fathers and brothers and boyfriends shoot but have never tried it themselves," she said. "There are a lot of people who are fed up with just making the shooting lunches who want to try it for themselves. It's much more interesting to take part in something when you actually know something about it.

"I would definitely recommend shooting. There is something really satisfying in being able to do it properly. I used to get so bored hanging around on shoots because there was just too much standing about.

"I wanted to be able to do it because I knew it would annoy my brother, but he is fine about it now. After all the remarks about girls not being able to shoot, he actually lent me his gun last weekend. I felt I had really achieved something a few weeks ago when my father invited me to a shoot in my own right as one of the guns. It was wonderful," she said.

"It really annoys me when I hear about men who don't like ladies shooting and turn their noses up at women guns. I know it goes on and it's terribly awkward for everyone involved. The answer is for more and more women to learn how to shoot. I'm extremely enthusiastic and it's terrific fun."

Vanessa Konig, 22, was terrified of guns before she learnt how to shoot. Now she is exhilarated by her achievement. "When you hit your first clay it's fantastic," she said. "There is something absolutely brilliant about hitting something. The buzz is terrific.

"Men who say women don't make good shots are wrong. You don't have to be particularly strong, you just need the right gun for your shoulder. There's no reason why women shouldn't be just as good shots as men: just because men have always shot while women look pretty on the sidelines doesn't mean it's always got to be like that," she said.

Pippa Kidson-Trigg: got bored hanging around

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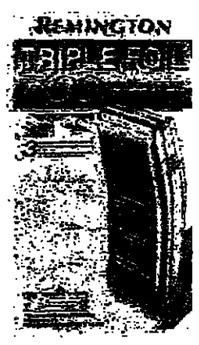

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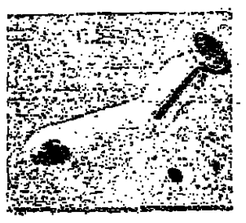

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Someone Cares

Vouchers exclude three-year-olds

Labour says nursery scheme threatens thousands of places

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

HALF the three-year-olds in state nursery education could lose their places when the Government launches its voucher scheme, according to Labour. Only four-year-olds will qualify for the £1,100 vouchers, which are to be piloted after Easter and introduced nationally in 1997.

Some 277,000 three-year-olds are in local authority nursery classes this year. Stephen Byers, a Labour education spokesman, said the transfer of £548 million to fund the voucher scheme would force education authorities to cut back, putting more than 133,000 places for three-year-olds at risk.

A survey of education authorities showed that Birmingham, Cleveland and Leeds had the most places at risk. Each could lose more than 6,000 full-time places unless extra funding can be found. A total of 17 authorities, from Northumberland to Avon, could lose more than 3,000 places.

Mr Byers said ministers were fully aware of the impact of vouchers. "The Government has got itself into the unacceptable position of only being able to offer comprehensive provision for four-year-olds at the expense of places for three-year-olds."

The full extent of the losses is impossible to predict accurately because government figures do not distinguish between full-time and part-time provision. Only a minority of three-year-olds in nurseries attend full-time.

Labour is planning an entitlement to free nursery education for all three and four-year-olds. A policy statement is expected in the new year, outlining targets for an expansion of provision.

However, Wandsworth in south London, one of the four authorities taking part in next year's pilot, expects to maintain a similar guarantee when the scheme is launched. A spokesman said: "One of the conditions to our participation in the pilot was that we could be certain that it would not affect our commitment to provide nursery education for three-year-olds in the year they are four."

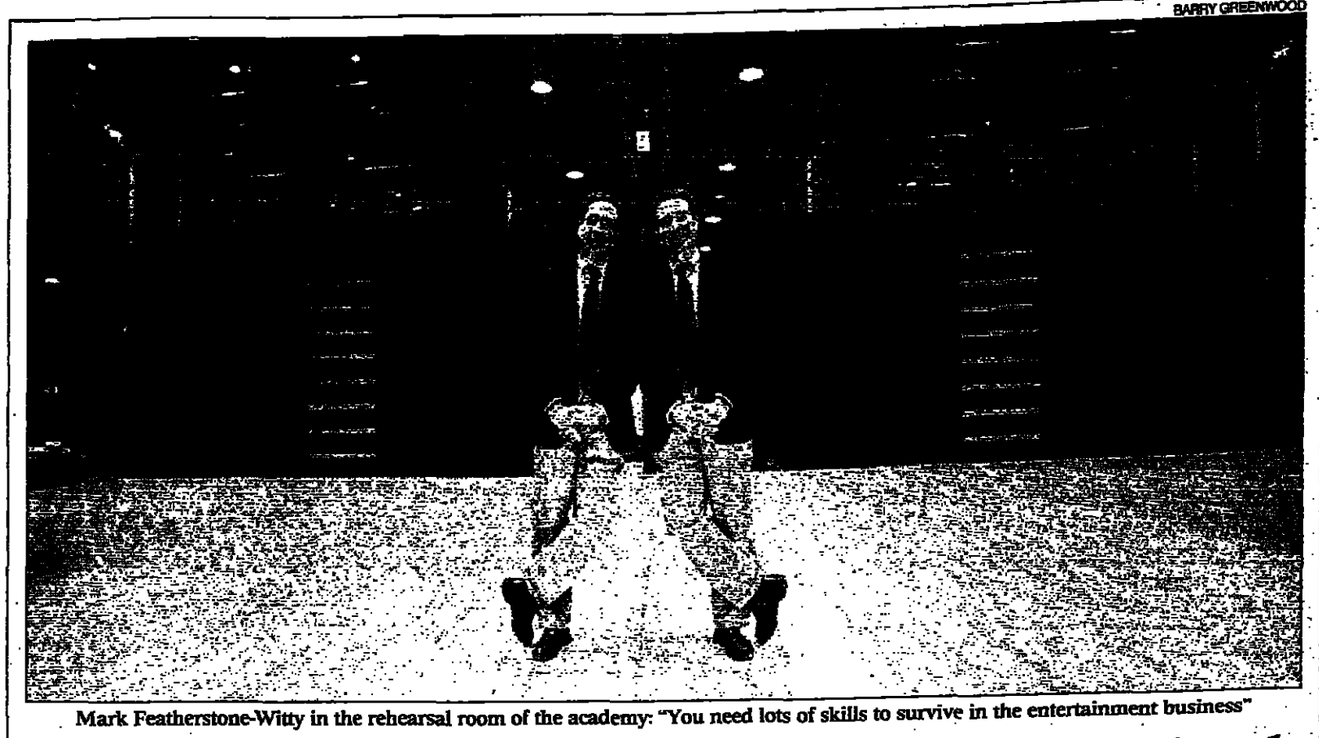
The 130 private nurseries in Wandsworth are expected to take up much of the slack. The spokesman said: "We would have preferred the voucher scheme to be extended to three-year-olds, but our commitment will continue in any case."

The Government's plans to expand pre-school education were already under attack from a teachers' union. The Association of Teachers and Lecturers questioned whether the planned curriculum for nursery education was appropriate for four-year-olds and whether it would be feasible to inspect all providers.

Angela Anning, a senior lecturer in education at Leeds University, who analysed the proposals for the association, said training for the new system was "in a mess". There was a danger that a "mums' army" without the necessary skills would have to be recruited to meet the demand.

Peter Smith, the ATL's general secretary, said: "The analysis casts serious doubt on the future quality of pre-school education under the current proposals. The Government stands guilty of jumping on a pre-election bandwagon when it comes to expanding the provision of pre-school education."

BARRY GREENWOOD



Mark Featherstone-Witty in the rehearsal room of the academy: "You need lots of skills to survive in the entertainment business"

McCartney becomes a class act at his old school

By DAVID CHARTER
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

PAUL McCARTNEY, Elvis Costello and Mark Knopfler step back into the classroom in the new year to share their knowledge of the entertainment industry with students at Britain's first "Fame" academy.

The Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts admits 200 undergraduates on January 8, a term later than planned and still owing several million pounds to its backers.

McCartney has been a major supporter, donating more than £1 million and unlocking the door to much more since the project was conceived 12 years ago. The former Beatle's commitment to taking a class has not wavered despite his wife Linda's operation for breast cancer earlier this month.

Mark Featherstone-Witty, the institute's chief executive, said: "He will still visit but I am not sure exactly when. The institute is not a change of career for him, he is not going to become a teacher, but he wants to pass on his expertise."

Others who will give lessons include the singers Paul Weller, Ray Davies and Joan Armatrading, the theatre designer John Napier and choreographer Gillian Lynne. The institute is in the Georgian building where both McCartney and George Harrison went to school, and which closed in 1986.

A 500-seat auditorium has been restored at the building, which has been fitted with dressing rooms, make-up studios, a second 140-seat auditorium, 30 music practice rooms and four recording studios.

More than 2,000 applied for the first 200 places and 6,500 have applied for next year. One attraction for students is the chance to do a performing arts course where they can get a mandatory local authority grant. The main degrees are validated by Liverpool John Moores University. Star names help generate publicity and the institute has never advertised, but Mr Featherstone-Witty hopes the design of its degree courses is the main draw. He said: "We do not just train actors or dancers or designers. We feel all our students should learn finance and management because you need a lot of skills to survive the entertainment business."

Review criticises green record of 'Roads Ministry'

By JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE Department of Transport has admitted for the first time in its 60 years that its pro-road policies have failed to take into account damage to the environment.

Dubbed the "Ministry for Roads" for its famed enthusiasm for concrete, the department has long been linked with Britain's powerful motor lobby. However, the increasing disaffection of the middle classes with the building of new roads in rural areas, combined with Treasury cuts, has led to a drastic scaling down of the roads programme in the past two years.

A further shift towards greener transport policies under Sir George Young, the Secretary of State who supports Friends of the Earth, looks inevitable after a damning internal review found that environmental issues "tended to fall through the gaps" in the department's policy thinking.

The review, led by James Watson, a former chairman of the National Freight Consortium, and Mike Williams, a senior Treasury official, said: "The problem has long been recognised in DoT, not least because of external (and internal) criticism that the Department has not handled well such issues as transport and the environment."

The report is critical of the management culture at the department, condemning it as "hierarchical and secretive, even aloof". Despite a reorganisation carried out last year, "management appeared to remain compartmentalised and bedevilled by poor communications".

A shake-up of the department, which has farmed off most of its functions to government agencies or the private sector, will result in a reduction of nearly 40 per cent in the number of senior officials by March. Two grades of official are being axed and about 45 of the most senior officers will leave.

Once one of the biggest departments in Whitehall, transport's Marsham Street headquarters has been slimmed down to about 2,000 staff. The Treasury increasingly sees it as a possible candidate for abolition after the demise of the departments of energy and employment.

Treasury officials argue that the transport planning side of the department could easily be carried out by the Department of the Environment, while responsibility for aviation and shipping could transfer back to the Department of Trade and Industry. Only road safety, one of the most successful areas of government policy, would be left without a natural home.

Sir George: a greener outlook on transport

Railtrack may drop timetable

By OUR TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

RAILTRACK might stop publishing a national train timetable because it has been so embarrassing for the company.

Railtrack took over responsibility for the 2,000-page, twice-yearly passenger timetable earlier this year because it is one of the few remaining organisations in the fragmented industry with a network-wide role. Its first attempt at the former BR timetable brought ignominy on the company when it was found to contain thousands of errors. With a stock market flotation in the spring, the company is keen to improve its image to impress City investors.

It is now considering how to deal with the next problem — how to illustrate the cover of the first timetables produced under privatisation without favouring one operator over another. The 25 train operators are competing for financial backing from the City under privatisation, and Railtrack lawyers fear that the timetable cover could even fall foul of the Financial Services Act, which places tight restrictions on financial advertising by companies being sold by the Government.

The current timetable, which is distributed by road to save money, shows two anonymous, empty sets of tracks stretching into the distance with no trace of a train or even a station.

The problem has been farmed out to a committee representing the 25 operators who will try to draw up a fair rota with each company's trains eventually appearing on the covers. "You can still easily see it leading to squabbles," said one Railtrack insider. "If they do it at the rate of one company per timetable, it will be 12½ years before they have all had their picture on the cover."

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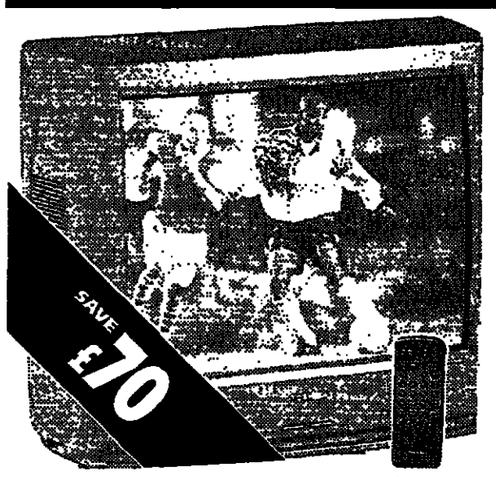

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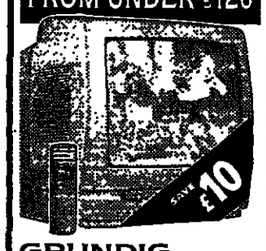

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Different dialects in song tell tragic story of bird's decline

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THE local dialects of bird song are being used to trace the decline of the corn bunting, once a common British bird but now close to extinction. Like Geordies or Scousers, corn buntings employ the same language but in subtly differing accents. Populations just a few miles apart are divided by their song, with females preferring to mate with males who sing the same dialect as their fathers.

Dr Peter McGregor, a lecturer in zoology at Nottingham University, has studied corn-bunting dialects in the Outer Hebrides and Cornwall. "The local dialect in certain areas stays relatively the same, but with a slightly different strain each year, despite the fact that many of the birds have been replaced with new ones," he says.

"Because the details of the dialect change from year to year, it is possible to pinpoint from a dialect where the bird came from and form a case history of its whereabouts."

In Cornwall, where the sound of corn buntings was recorded in 1979 and then in the 1990s, the changing songs reflect the European Union's Common Agricultural Policy. The switch from cereal growing in the 1980s to grazing in the 1990s was not kind to the corn bunting.

"We found dramatic changes not only in the songs

Buntings prefer mates with the same accent

but also in where the birds were found," Dr McGregor says. "This points to the fact that a colony had been wiped out and that another set resettled." In one location, the result was a babel of different songs, because the birds that were left were the tattered remnants of a number of groups.

Normally, Dr McGregor says, 90 per cent of male birds and 80 per cent of females will stay in the same small area where they were born. "In the summer, the birds sing from dawn to dusk with a song every ten seconds, so it is obviously very important to them."

In 1970, there were half a million corn buntings in Britain, but now the population is down to about 20,000 and falling fast. "There has been a staggering decline," Dr McGregor says. "The bird is not in global danger, because there are enormous numbers in the former Soviet Union and in Spain and Portugal, but in Britain it is on the way out."

Differences of dialect between neighbouring populations are subtle, but can be detected by recording the song and playing it slowed down, or by analysing the song with a sound spectrograph, which shows the pattern on a screen.

Remarkably, sharp boundaries between populations with different dialects just a few miles apart are maintained. In the Outer Hebrides, three distinct dialects were found within ten miles.

Studying the dialects can offer pointers to the bird's survival, Dr McGregor says. "You might count the birds and find there were 60 of them, which sounds fine. But if there is one group of 30, another of 20, and another of ten, all with different songs and not interbreeding, the situation would be much worse."

Studying corn buntings is not easy. They nest on the ground and if they are visited too regularly, gulls will follow birdwatchers to the nest and destroy it. Some observers believe that "set-aside" of land, under the Common Agricultural Policy, is helping the corn bunting survive, but Dr McGregor is not so sure.

"What they like are large grains like wheat and barley, not weed species," he says. "Intensive cereal growing is too clean, it leaves the birds nothing behind. And pesticides are killing the insects they use to feed their chicks."

Rare visitors fly in for Christmas

THE Christmas holidays have produced a flurry of sightings for Britain's bird watchers. Rare species like Arctic redpolls and small grey and white finches have been seen in abundance.

There has also been an arrival of waxwings — pinkish-brown starling-like birds with prominent head crests and red, yellow and white wing markings — from the northern forests of Scandinavia and Russia.

One of the best areas for spotting is north Norfolk, where up to five Arctic redpolls are being seen in weedy fields between Cromer and East Runton, while a party of 14 waxwings was seen near Sheringham. Further Arctic redpolls have been identified in the past 24 hours at the William Thorpe Nature Reserve near Baslow, Derbyshire; at Brentwood, Essex; in a wood by the A606 near Rutland Water, Leicestershire; near Newborough, Staffordshire; and at the Vane Farm RSPB reserve, near Kinross, Tayside, Scotland.

More than 120 Arctic redpolls have been reported around the country since a record invasion began last month, with some of the largest numbers appearing in Orkney and Shetland.

The severe weather currently being experienced in the northern isles should not bother them as they are among the world's hardiest birds, known to live through temperatures as low as minus 60 degrees centigrade in Alaska. Their flight to Britain is not considered weather-related but caused by a food shortage in their normal wintering territories — which is also the reason for the sudden appearance of waxwings. These birds, which feed on berries, have been reported at Fazakerley, Liverpool; Holkham, Norfolk and near Barnsley and Doncaster in Yorkshire. More are likely to be reported further afield over the coming days.

Other birds originating from Scandinavia or Russia which have been reported over the Christmas holidays include smew, a type of duck, with sightings in Berkshire, Cheshire, Cleveland, Cornwall, Essex, Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire.

CHANNEL 4

Ted Danson, all at sea in the film of *Gulliver's Travels*, to be shown in the spring

Gulliver grows up for the small screen

BY DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE producer of *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, Britain's most successful film, has made a £13 million, all-star production of *Gulliver's Travels* for adults. "I don't mean that in the Mary Whitehouse sense," Duncan Kenworthy said. "We've gone back to the book, which was written for adults."

The cast for the television film of Jonathan Swift's 1726 satire on pride and folly is a *Who's Who* of Britain's leading actors. Among them are Sir John Gielgud, Peter O'Toole, Edward Fox, Edward Woodward, James Fox, Robert Hardy, Nicholas Lyndhurst, Edward Petherbridge and Phoebe Nicholls. However, the Hollywood actor best known as the bar owner in *Cheers*, Ted Danson, plays the 18th-century Englishman who gets lost at sea and embarks on the strangest voyages.

Mr Kenworthy, the producer, said this was the first time that Swift's work, one of the most reprinted books in the English language, had been filmed in its entirety: it includes all four "travels".

Assisted by the latest word in special effects, Gulliver visits Lilliput, where the inhabitants are six inches tall and quarrel over which end eggs should be broken. He continues to Brobdingnag, where the giants are as tall as steeples; to Laputa, the flying island where the nobles literally have their heads in the clouds and where nothing works properly; and to Houyhnhnms, where coldly rational horses talk.

Mr Kenworthy opted for a televised version rather than a feature film because he wanted to film the entire adventure, which needed some three hours. "You can't do the four voyages in 90 minutes. The minimum is three hours, which is what we've done."

The production is directed by Charles Sturridge, whose credits include *Brideshead Revisited*, and will be screened in the spring by Channel 4.

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MEDICAL BRIEFING

Pâté: not only the goose is getting fat

Tucked away among the learned articles of sociology and medicine in the Christmas edition of the *British Medical Journal* was one that appealed to less academic members of the profession. Many of us have noticed that French pâté de foie gras is in a class of its own, that it has a quality unmatched by pâté from, for instance, Poland.

Hitherto there has not been any scientific explanation for this. We may have thought that possibly it was the wine from Cahors, which comes from the same area as the pâté and goes so well with it, which made the essential difference.

Research, however, recently presented at the meeting of the French Nutrition Association in Lyons, and reported in the *BMJ*, attributed the supremacy of French pâté de foie gras to the unusual lipid metabolism of the grey geese from south-west France. Their livers are affected by a hereditary defect in fat metabolism so they have a greater concentration of lipoprotein cholesterol than other geese.

Geese, like other migratory birds, have a natural tendency to store lipids in the liver and force-feeding by French farmers utilises this tendency. It is particularly successful in the grey goose, whose liver will become twice as large as that of a Polish white goose within two or three weeks of the start of the fattening regime. Lipid metabolism has not only been of interest to epicureans. Another piece of research on lipid metabolism in humans, as demonstrated by their blood cholesterol levels, is of more general importance. The significance of the Scandinavian Simvastatin Survival Study in the treatment of older patients with raised cholesterol is emphasised in the December edition of *Care of The Elderly*.

Many doctors feel that once patients have their free bus passes nobody should worry about their cholesterol levels. In the Scandinavian study, the progress of 1,111 patients between 65 and 70 who were known to have coronary heart disease were followed for ten years. Treating them with cholesterol-lowering drugs improved their chances of survival by a third, and cut the coronary death rate by 43 per cent. Age is no bar for treating raised cholesterol.

This should not mean, however, that those who enjoy their paté can relax dietary restrictions. Even when taking one of the statin preparations, they are still advised to follow a low-fat diet.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

Scores are killed as South African river bursts banks

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

THE bodies of 130 people were recovered yesterday and hundreds more were missing after a rain-swollen river burst its banks, sending a flash flood through a black township outside Pietermaritzburg, in South Africa's KwaZulu/-Natal province.

As police divers, troops and residents of Imbali township searched through deep mud for victims, and helicopters flew in a shuttle with body-bags to the city's mortuaries, more rain was threatening last night to add to the devastation.

At least 1,000 people have been made homeless, with many homes and flimsy shacks on the river bank washed away. The flash flood hit the township during torrential rain late on Christmas night. In one half-hour period, more than four inches was recorded.

Pieter Miller, the provincial Minister of Local Government, said the district had been proclaimed a disaster area and central government aid would be sought for the victims. "More rain is expected and the situation could get worse," he said.

The disaster has again exposed the fickleness and extremes of South Africa's climate. Three months ago, the levels of the country's main reservoirs were critically low and severe restrictions on water use were imposed by the Government over large areas.

Officials said that the Johannesburg region, the most populous in the country and supplied mainly by the Vaal dam reservoir, then 16 per cent full, might have no water at all by July unless the situation improved. Yesterday the reservoir was 68 per cent full, with the level rising more than 3ft in 24 hours.

Water board officials expected it to be full for the first time since 1987 by New Year's Eve.

Thirty miles upstream, the Vaal river broke its banks, flooding the town of Standerton, where 40 families were moved out of their homes.

Yesterday the police found the wreckage of a minibus taxi that had been swept into a tributary of the river last Friday. It was believed that the vehicle was carrying 15 passengers when it disappeared, but no bodies were recovered yesterday.

Thabo Mbeki, the First Deputy President, accompanied by a group of senior government ministers, met Dr Frank Mdlalose, Premier of KwaZulu/Natal province, for urgent discussions yesterday after the massacre of 17 people by gunmen near the coastal resort of Port Shepstone on Christmas Day.

The police said the attack was politically motivated, because all the victims were supporters of the African National Congress while their attackers came from a stronghold of Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party. But Inkatha condemned the attack and denied having anything to do with it.

More than 800 people have died in political conflict in the province this year, and more than 13,000 have been killed since the rivalry between Inkatha and ANC-aligned organisations erupted just over a decade ago.

Eleven days ago President Mandela and Chief Buthelezi, the Home Affairs Minister, shook hands on what they described as a new initiative to end violence. The next day ten people were killed by gunmen in the same area as the Christmas Day attack.

☐ **Ten killed:** Ten people were killed in faction-fighting on Christmas night at Goba, near the KwaZulu/Natal town of Estcourt, the police said yesterday. *(AFP)*

Debris and the roofs of smashed huts dot the floodwaters yesterday after a rain-swollen river burst its banks in KwaZulu/Natal province. Hundreds of people are still reported missing in spite of a huge rescue operation

Reformers 'a threat to Pyongyang'

BY JAMES PRINGLE

KIM JONG Il, the leader of North Korea, made a rare public appearance on Christmas Day, and at the same time warned of the threat to socialism by reform-minded politicians, the state-run media reported yesterday.

In a rare gesture of reconciliation, possibly with a view to receiving badly needed food aid for the country, North Korea yesterday released five South Korean fishermen who were seized on board their trawler last May. They were handed over at the border village of Panmunjom, together with the cremated remains of three of their colleagues, two of whom were killed during the capture of the boat when it allegedly strayed into North Korean waters.

Calling for ideological disicipline, Kim Jong Il wrote in a treatise in *Rodong Shinmun*, the ruling party paper, that communism in other countries had collapsed because of "traitorous acts" by people in leading party positions.

In what Pyongyang-watchers say could be an effort at tightening ideological control amid uncertainty over the transfer of power to the younger Kim from the late President Kim Il Sung, the 53-year-old leader urged the authorities to follow the same hardline policies as those pursued by his father, who died last year. The two-page treatise, entitled *Respecting seniors in the revolution is a noble moral obligation of revolutionaries*, implied that "opportunists" and "renegade socialists" might destroy socialism in North Korea, the world's last Stalinist state.

His remarks came amid severe food shortages, exacerbated by severe flooding that decimated crops.

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Deaths rise after India fire tragedy

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

FOR the third successive day scores of people were cremated in a mass ceremony yesterday in the small town of Dabwali in northern India, where the death toll from Saturday's fire disaster is likely to reach 500.

Victims continued to die of burns, smoke inhalation and injuries sustained in a stampede to escape the blaze. The sense of outrage among the people of Dabwali, in the farming state of Haryana, is being shared nationwide: every Indian can identify with a catastrophe that was bound to happen.

It has exposed the virtual non-existence of safety regulations for weddings and other celebrations held beneath the traditional *shamiana*, a colourful tent-like structure that burns easily. The countless shops that hire *shamianas* are not required to treat their tents to resist fire. Nor are there any regulations governing exit points.

The structures are capable of holding hundreds of people — the Dabwali *shamiana* was packed with 1,300 children and relations attending a school prizegiving — and it is common for makeshift kitchens to be set up inside them, complete with liquid gas cylinders. At least one cylinder exploded on Saturday at the Rajiv Wedding Palace.

The *shamiana* was erected in the grounds of a community hall surrounded by a high wall topped with barbed wire, making escape all but impossible in an emergency. Only one or two exit points were left unlocked to keep uninvited people out.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Yeltsin leaves clinic for home

Moscow: President Yeltsin of Russia ended his stay at a sanitorium outside Moscow yesterday and moved to his home in the same area, two months after being taken to hospital with heart trouble, the Kremlin said.

Sergei Medvedev, the presidential spokesman, said Mr Yeltsin's mood and health were fine, and that he would celebrate the new year with his family, Tass reported. Mr Yeltsin had repeatedly said he wanted to spend new year with his family.

Mr Yeltsin, 64, went to hospital for a condition restricting blood flow to the heart on October 26, his second bout of heart trouble in four months. He later moved to the sanitorium. The Kremlin said yesterday that he will continue his convalescence at home. *(AFP)*

Cult inquiry

Grenoble: Attempts to identify the charred remains of 16 members of the Order of the Solar Temple, found in a remote French forest clearing, are being made at a hospital here. *(Reuter)*

Child victim

Bogotá: Left-wing rebels raided a town on the outskirts of the Colombian capital, robbing two banks, wounding four policemen and killing the 18-month-old daughter of a police commander. *(Reuter)*

Trawler death

Oslo: One Russian seaman died and nine were feared dead after their trawler sank 20 miles off Vannoeya in northern Norway. Fifteen crew were rescued from lifeboats. *(AFP)*

Rain toll

São Paulo: Floods and landslides caused by three days of heavy rain have killed more than 20 people and left at least 3,000 homeless in southern Brazil. Worst hit was the state of Santa Catarina. *(AP)*

Kashmir blast

Srinagar: A bomb destroyed the home of a local administrator in Kashmir, injuring 10 people, police said. Six children escaped with small cuts because they were wrapped in blankets to keep warm. *(AP)*

ETA arrests

Vitoria: Three suspected Eta Basque separatists — two men and a woman — were arrested and 150 kilos of explosives were seized in two early morning raids in this Basque capital. *(Reuter)*

Quick as a flash

Nairobi: Kenya held its first ostrich race, six riders and their mounts competing in a 200 metres sprint on Ngong racecourse. The winning jockey was Flash Harry, on a bird of the same name. *(Reuter)*

Storms kill 60

Moscow: Sixty people have died in storms raging across northern Kazakhstan in recent days. Electricity and telephone lines were damaged by high winds and several buildings badly damaged. *(AFP)*

Partygoers have a riot at Bondi beach

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

THE FUTURE of Australia's biggest and booziest party, the annual Christmas celebrations on Sydney's Bondi beach, is under threat after thousands of young revellers caused a riot.

The informal get-together, started by British backpackers several years ago, has become such a tradition that it attracts young tourists from around the world. A record 20,000 turned up this Christmas.

The mood turned ugly after a group of Sydney youths arrived on the scene in the evening to cruise the seafront in their "hot rods". It is still not clear who started the trouble, but when several hundred youngsters tried to overturn a stationary bus, police moved in.

The crowd rounded on the police, hurling bricks and bottles at the limited number of officers on duty. Police sent in more than 100 reinforcements in riot gear to disperse the troublemakers. There were no arrests. One policeman was slightly injured and several cars were damaged.

The Bondi police commander, Chief Inspector Dick Baker, admitted he was seriously considering banning the annual party and, more especially, alcohol. "We will certainly be looking into that," he said.

Police have promised to provide a much larger presence at the next scheduled Bondi beach party — on New Year's Eve.

Waverley council, which is responsible for the beach, took an equally hard line. Paul Pearce, a councillor, said: "It's outrageous what's happened and if we could stop it, we would." But he admitted the council was at a loss to prevent the consumption of so much alcohol.

It took a team of 20 council workers nearly six hours to remove rubbish left by the revellers. Now, if the council cannot stop parties, it will consider charging an entry fee to the beach to pay for the clean-up.

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Woman accused of masterminding US immigrants racket

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

LATIN American authorities have arrested the alleged head of a vast people-smuggling network said to have used wholesale bribery to channel thousands of illegal immigrants to the United States.

The arrest of Gloria Canales, 40, a Peruvian woman, yesterday exposed an alleged web of corruption and death stretching from Ecuador to Honduras and Mexico City, and from India to China, leaving the US Government in little doubt that such smuggling has joined the drug and diamond trade to become a multi-million-dollar business.

Señora Canales, who is alleged to have used a sophisticated maze of worldwide contacts, is believed to have smuggled at least 10,000 Indians, Chinese and Latin Americans across the border from Central America each year, charging as much as $6,000 £3,800) a head for the privilege.

In a raid on the Canales mansion in Costa Rica over Christmas, agents found documents and computer records implicating senior officials of various governments, including military and immigration officers. They have since been handed to the CIA for analysis. "I am sure there will be some heads rolling," said one US official, who admitted that the records included the names of contacts in the United States, but was not certain whether any Americans were on Señora Canales's alleged payroll.

The network was said to have included numerous US-Mexican border guards, known as "coyotes", airline officials, hotel owners from Peru to Mexico and senior contacts in India and China.

Indian and Chinese clients were said often to fly into Quito, the high-altitude capital of Ecuador, or the port city of Guayaquil, where they were lodged in hotels before making the journey north.

According to Peter Romero, the American Ambassador to Ecuador, many clients were dissatisfied with the quality of accommodation. Four Chinese immigrants arrived at his embassy in Quito last year complaining that they had been put up in a poor hotel serving inedible food, despite the large sums they had paid.

More seriously, however, the alleged Canales ring is said to have been blamed for the deaths of at least ten people during the sometimes hazardous trip to the American border, among them three Indians who had reportedly drowned in the Gulf of Fonseca between Honduras and El Salvador last summer.

After investigators started looking into her affairs, Señora Canales is said to have sent a henchman to Tegucigalpa, the Honduran capital, to consider the assassination of the regional immigration and naturalisation station chief.

Señora Canales, now facing dozens of death threats herself from contacts who are said to believe she could expose them, is being guarded day and night while she awaits trial in Honduras.

She was arrested in Ecuador and deported to Honduras, the only Central American country in which smuggling of humans is a crime. She will stand trial on charges of smuggling, bribery, falsification of documents and homicide, and faces up to 30 years in prison if convicted.

Honduras, which American investigators have said was used previously as a way station for the organisation, has been racked by bribery and corruption scandals relating to the alleged smuggling. Two immigration officers and a former Foreign Minister have been arrested and accused of involvement.

King Husain of Jordan, left, and President Mubarak of Egypt hold a day of talks in Aqaba yesterday

Israel and Syria reopen peace talks

BY TOM RHODES

SYRIAN and Israeli negotiators begin landmark talks on the Middle East's future today in an atmosphere far removed from the controversial Golan Heights — at a sprawling Maryland plantation of frosty fields with only grazing Angus cattle for company.

After the success of its Bosnian talks — held at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, last month — the Clinton Administration hopes to complete another foreign policy coup at Wye Plantation. As in Dayton, the press will be barred from the talks, which are expected to have as chief American negotiator Dennis Ross, the State Department's Middle East troubleshooter.

American officials believe last month's assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, has lent an unexpected fillip to the peace process.

Shimon Peres, his successor, has since indicated he may be ready to declare Syrian sovereignty over Golan, the plateau captured by Israel in 1967. The last talks foundered over Israeli demands to maintain early warning stations there.

Meanwhile, President Mubarak of Egypt and King Husain of Jordan met yesterday and said they hoped Syria would soon make peace with Israel.

☐ Vanunu plea: For the first time an Israeli minister has called for the release of the nuclear technician Mordechai Vanunu, jailed in 1988 for disclosing weapons secrets (Ross Dunn writes). Shulamit Aloni, the Communications and Science Minister, insisted he be released or "that at least the conditions of his detention be drastically improved".

Letters, page 17

Cabbies placed in order of rank

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

HAILING a cab is to be banned in the middle of Manhattan. From next summer New Yorkers will instead have to queue at one of 200 new taxi ranks soon be placed at street corners.

The measure, part of Mayor Rudolph Giuliani's "quality of life" policy, is designed to ease traffic jams and restore a sense of civic order. Taxi drivers who pick up or drop off passengers at non-designated sites will be liable to $55 (£35) fines.

The rule will apply from 10am to 4pm, and there should be roughly one rank per block of the city's midtown area.

Cabbies say the plan is unworkable. Willie Bly, head of the Federation of Yellow Cab Operators, said it was "not feasible" to expect passengers to accept such rules.

The city's transport department says traffic jams are caused by cabs stopping in the middle of the road to pick up or drop off a fare, and that cabs dart across lanes to prospective passengers. There are also frequent rows over who first hailed a cab.

Republicans give budget warning

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN WASHINGTON

THE Clinton Administration may undermine the Constitution by continuing to borrow without congressional approval, Bill Archer, the chairman of the House of Representatives ways and means committee said yesterday.

Mr Archer wrote to the Treasury Secretary, Robert Rubin, that the Administration was testing "the bounds of legality and constitutionality".

The Republican-controlled Congress has refused to grant authority for the Treasury to increase the debt it must incur to meet government obligations. The tactic is meant to pressure President Clinton into agreeing a seven-year deadline for balancing the federal budget.

To keep the Government from exceeding its debt ceiling, Mr Rubin has converted to cash securities in two retirement funds administered by the Treasury on behalf of federal workers.

In his letter, Mr Archer quoted from the Constitution, which states that only Congress "shall have power to borrow money on the credit of the United States".

"I believe that any continued effort by the Treasury Department to avoid the legal debt limit, absent a permanent debt limit extension in the context of a balanced budget agreement, would seriously undermine the constitutional balance of power."

About 100 federal employees, temporarily out of work because of the budget dispute, gathered briefly inside the Social Security Administration's national headquarters in Woodlawn, Maryland, yesterday to protest at the partial government shutdown. They stayed for about 15 minutes.

Social Security officials said nobody was ordered out, even though federal law prohibits employees from volunteering their services. "My people who were there had their instructions — to let the thing go and not stop anybody if they wanted to go back to work," Deputy Commissioner John Dyer said.

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هكذا من الاصل

Turkish losers team up to deny victor his spoils

FROM ANDREW FINKEL IN ISTANBUL

TURKEY'S politicians sat down yesterday to solve the riddle posed by the outcome of Sunday's general election.

Top of the agenda at the meeting between the outgoing Prime Minister, Tansu Ciller, and her rival, Mesut Yilmaz, leader of the Motherland Party, was how to sink their differences to stop the pro-Islamic Welfare Party, which came first in the poll, from gaining power.

Both agreed to work towards a coalition. Mr Yilmaz said after the meeting: "My hopes have been raised for the realisation of a strong government based on compromise."

Mrs Ciller said: "I have said we would welcome a coalition with Anap [Mr Yilmaz's party] and I repeat that. Our aim is to go towards a wide-based government."

Necmettin Erbakan, 70, as leader of the Welfare Party which took the most seats, still insists on his right to receive the presidential mandate to form an administration.

The electoral triumph may turn to dust unless Welfare manages to convince a possible coalition partner that it has truly entered the mainstream of Turkish politics. "What looks like a victory may well turn into defeat," said Sahin Alpay, a columnist on Turkey's *Milliyet* newspaper.

To find a coalition partner, Mr Erbakan called on other parties to put the campaign's harsh words behind them, saying: "The day of compromise is upon us."

The plea may reflect some desperation. Both Mrs Ciller and Mr Yilmaz seem determined to hold Mr Erbakan to his campaign promise never to enter into a coalition if he did not win outright victory. Welfare needs an additional 118 deputies to win a majority in the 450-seat assembly: they are proving impossible to find.

Mrs Ciller's True Path Party, in particular, ran much of its campaign trying to attract the tactical voter by claiming to be the party most likely to hold at bay "the fundamentalist peril".

Mr Yilmaz has also made it clear that he will not do a deal unless the Welfare Party radically changes its anti-Western rhetoric.

Most observers believe Mrs Ciller and Mr Yilmaz have no alternative but to deal with one another.

"First we have to go into a coalition, then we have to merge," said Sedat Aloglu, a newly elected True Path Party MP and the leader of a ginger group promoting closer Turkish ties with the European Union.

Most believe that the differences between the True Path and Motherland parties are more personal than ideological. But, animosity apart, the two together are still nine seats short of an outright majority. To form a government they would have to rely on one of the two left-of-centre parties with seats in the new parliament.

Mr Yilmaz clearly favours Bulent Ecevit, leader of the Democratic Left. Mr Ecevit, a popular left-wing leader in the 1970s, now campaigns on a hard nationalist line.

Mrs Ciller would feel more comfortable with the Republican People's Party, with whom her party was in coalition in the last parliament. The other solution would be to win support from the Left for a minority government.

With Mr Erbakan's two rivals increasingly likely to get together, Welfare will find itself slipping into a distant second place. Even then, to stay in the political running it may have to modify its tone.

Rather than the Welfare Party imposing an Islamic order on Turkey, Turkey may well force the Welfare Party itself to change.

The Turkish stock exchange rallied on news of a possible coalition, recovering some of its losses from Christmas Day, when it dropped 6.5 per cent of its value.

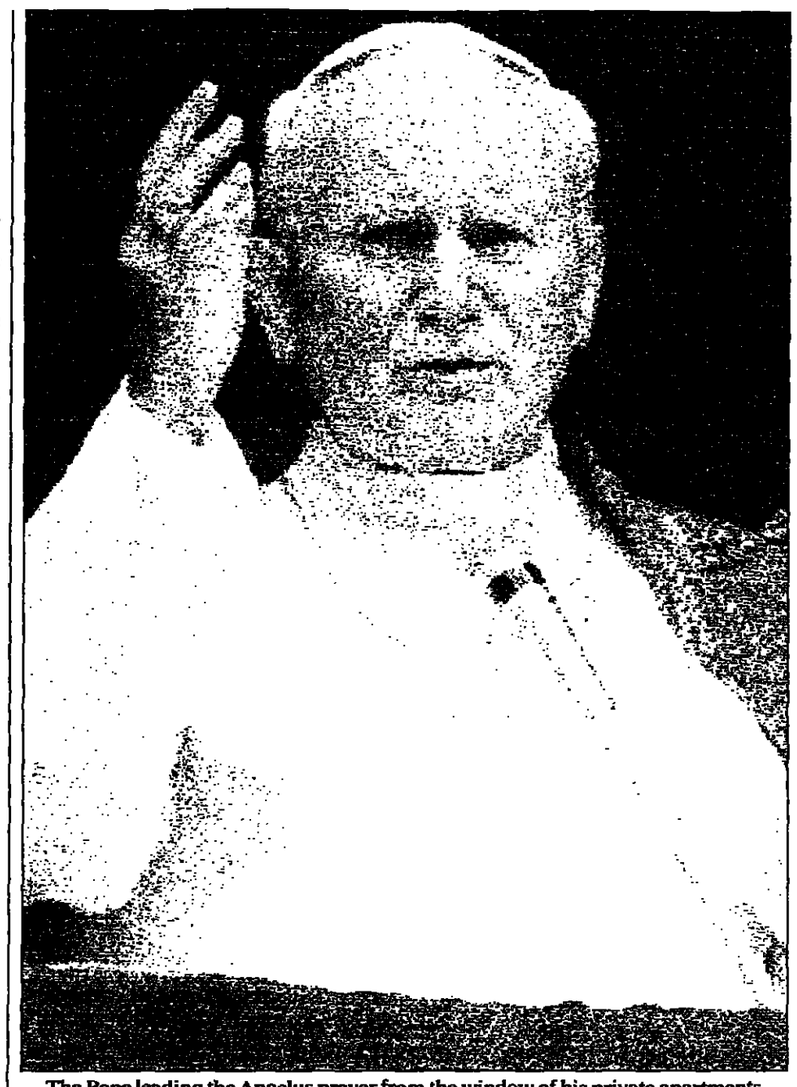
Some brokers were suggesting that the optimism is premature. President Demirel might still feel he has no choice but to give the mandate to Mr Erbakan, who would then have 45 days in which to form an administration. Even if he gave the mandate back to Mrs Ciller, who has the second largest number of seats, a subsequent coalition might lack the strength to take the economic measures needed.

Leading article, page 17

ELECTION RESULTS

Party	Ideology	Deputies	% vote
Welfare	Islamic	158	21.3
True Path	R. of centre	135	19.2
Motherland	R. of centre	132	19.6
Democratic Left	L. of centre	75	14.6
Republican People's	L. of centre	50	10.7

Erbakan: insists on right to form a government



The Pope leading the Angelus prayer from the window of his private apartments yesterday and blessing pilgrims gathered in St Peter's Square in Rome

Feverish Pope gives a second address

FROM REUTER IN ROME

THE Pope, looking tired, gave his holiday greetings to the world yesterday after his Christmas Day celebrations were disrupted by a bout of influenza.

"Thank you for coming here today and yesterday, thank you so much," the Pope said, speaking from the window of his private apartments overlooking St Peter's Square. "I wish you, in this Christmas season, a special blessing of the Lord," he said.

Dr Joaquin Navarro-Valls, the Vatican spokesman, said the pontiff, aged 75, was feeling better, although he still had a slight fever. He said the rest of his holiday schedule would not be affected. "Nothing has changed on his end-of-year programme," the spokesman said, adding that the Pope's doctor had told him to have a few days' rest. "The slight disturbance which the Holy Father suffered yesterday is improving all the time both in terms of the slight fever and the stomach problems, which are now almost gone," he said.

Pilgrims in St Peter's Square cheered and applauded as the Pope appeared at the window yesterday to lead the Angelus prayer and give his blessing, but he looked tired and drawn as he read slowly from a written text.

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Serbs seek delay in moving forces out of Sarajevo

FROM STACY SULLIVAN IN PALE

THE commander of Nato forces in Bosnia-Herzegovina met separatist Bosnian Serb leaders in Pale yesterday to discuss the implementation of the Dayton peace plan, but refused to give way to a request to alter the terms of the agreement.

After two hours of talks at the Bosnian Serb presidency in Pale, Admiral Leighton Smith said Momcilo Krajisnik, the Speaker of the Bosnian Serb parliament, has asked for an unspecified extension of the deadline by which the Bosnian Serb Army must move out of Serb-held sections of Sarajevo.

Under the Dayton plan, which Mr Krajisnik signed, the army must vacate its positions and withdraw 1,000 yards behind the ceasefire line by January 19. However, the Bosnian Serbs, who claim that they were coerced into signing the Dayton plan by President Milosevic of Serbia, say they cannot accept the terms of the agreement regarding Sarajevo, because Serbs living in Serb-controlled areas fear reprisals when the Bosnian Government takes control of the areas.

Admiral Smith said he would consider the request and discuss it with General Sir Michael Walker, the Nato ground commander, but made no promises. "I don't believe today that I am in such a position to make a commitment," Admiral Smith said. He added that, although he is not authorised to change the peace plan, he is empowered to alter the plan's deadlines. However, Nato officials said an extension was unlikely and that there was no possibility of renegotiating the terms of the agreement.

Mr Krajisnik is a close ally of Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, who has been charged as a war criminal in the International Court of Justice in The Hague. Nato members have been instructed not to meet Dr Karadzic or General Ratko Mladic, Bosnian Serb military commander, also charged over war crimes.

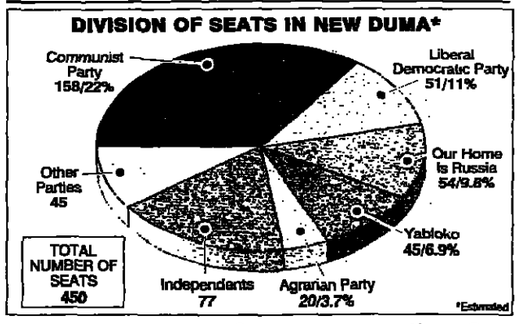
The Serb leadership's request for an extension of the deadline by which they must withdraw their forces may be a tactic to stall the implementation of the Dayton plan with the hope of maintaining a divided Sarajevo.

Yesterday a hand-grenade exploded in a shop in Belgrade, killing the manager and his assistant. Such incidents have increased in Serbia in the past four years when large numbers of weapons, including hand-grenades, have been brought in from the battlefields and sold throughout the country.

☐ **Belgrade:** A phone company employee, who cut off President Milosevic's telephone because of an unpaid bill for less than £9, has been fined 10 per cent of her annual salary. (AP)

Letters, page 17

DIVISION OF SEATS IN NEW DUMA*



Communists set their sights on key jobs

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S victorious Communists are planning to translate recent election success in parliamentary polls into concrete political gains and set their sights on some of the most influential posts in Moscow.

With final results in Russia's elections showing the Communists holding more than a third of the seats in the assembly, the party is hoping to secure ministerial posts and dominate important parliamentary committees, and may even secure the key job of Speaker of the Duma, the lower house of parliament.

According to final results released by the Central Electoral Commission this week, the Communist Party won 22.31 per cent of the vote in the party lists as well 58 constituency seats, which should translate into a total of 158 seats in parliament under Russia's electoral system.

The second largest faction in the Duma is expected to be Our Home Is Russia, which should take 54 parliamentary seats. The ultra-nationalist Liberal Democratic Party should receive 51 parliamentary places. The liberal Yabloko Party should get 45.

Several smaller parties and independent candidates share the rest and will probably form voting alliances with the major parties.

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Clergy cast as villains in Pakistan's theatre of propaganda

Bhutto plays on Western fears to stay in control

By Christopher Thomas

BENAZIR Bhutto is in combat with extremist Islam. The outcome will define Pakistan as an international terrorist state or a liberal Islamic democracy. The Prime Minister owns a house in the south of France, where she will flee when she loses the ideological war. The army wants her out. The Government is tottering.

Rumour-mongering in Pakistan is an art form. The West, especially the United States, often falls for these stories. Miss Bhutto talks up the Islamic threat to Pakistan's young democracy because it buys sympathy from America, not because it is real. She sings a different song for domestic consumption, deriding the clerics as cowards and exploiters of religion. They are the last people she fears.

"It is said that hell hath no fury like a woman scorned. Allow me to say that hell hath no fury like a cleric scorned." This was her most contemptuous outburst against hardline clergymen, hardly the remark of somebody shrinking before their power.

She is attacking them as never before, aware that they have little grassroots support and that her rhetoric plays well in the West.

"Bhutto takes on Islamic zealots" is the theme of headlines currently doing the international rounds. She must be pleased by this perception. Her declaration that Pakistan is a frontline state in the battle against Islamic extremism was for American ears: such comments keep Washington sweet on her, even if they are nonsense to Pakistani ears. The feudal ruling classes, quaffing Scotch whisky, understand her need to play this game. BB, as Miss Bhutto is widely known, has been imprisoned, elected Prime Minister, toppled by the military, intimidated, humiliated and elected again. Her husband was jailed by political opponents. Her own mother questioned a woman's right to hold the Bhutto political legacy. Her brother challenged her for the leadership. Still she survives.

Those who believe she will one day flee the country fail to comprehend her passion for power and, indeed, her courage. She seems secure in power for the foreseeable future. The political opposition is in shambles and the army shows no inclination to arrange her overthrow, as it did in 1990. The current focus in predicting her downfall is not on military displeasure but on Islamic might, an absurd idea.

Pakistan's Islamic parties are always mauled in elections. In the 1993 general election they captured eight of the 195 Muslim seats in the National Assembly. They would be almost irrelevant but for the institutionalised powers granted by General Zia ul-Haq, the late dictator, which are in any case often overstated.

The credibility of radical Islamists in Pakistan comes largely from the West's obsession with them. Both they and Miss Bhutto conspire, for different reasons, to exaggerate their influence. The Prime Minister deals with them when politically convenient, giving them key posts and letting their supporters out of jail, which Washington chooses not to notice.

B.K. BANGASH

Militant female students from the International Islamic University at Islamabad stage a protest outside the Pakistani parliament. The country's Interior Ministry has accused the institution of being a hotbed of terrorism

University seen as school of terror

From Christopher Thomas in Islamabad

TUCKED in the shadow of the picturesque Margallah hills overlooking Islamabad, the International Islamic University looks anything but a hub of terrorist activities. Intelligence agents say it is a state within a state, a "direct security threat to the country". They want it put under government control.

"The foreigners should be monitored," the Federal Investigation Agency said in a report this month to the Interior Ministry, referring to the overseas students and faculty. "The university has practically been monopolised by Egyptians: 200 illegal students do not possess valid documents. The university has never been subjected to any audit."

It was a damning indictment of what is paradoxically the most peaceful higher education institution in the country. It is alone among universities in boasting that it has never had a gun battle on campus.

Benazir Bhutto has been one of its biggest benefactors. According to university officials, she allocated 704 acres of government land in 1990, said to be worth £200 million, to expand the campus. Hussain Hamid Hassan, the university president and an Egyptian, said the Pakistani Government gave 100 million rupees (£1.25 million) a year in cash grants. An equal amount was given "in kind" from abroad, such as teachers' salaries, students' fees and equipment.

The university aims to expand to 30,000 students from its present 1,955, half of whom are Pakistanis. The rest come from more than 50 countries. According to published figures, almost half the 198 faculty members are Pakistanis; most of the rest are Egyptian. Afghans make up the largest number of foreign students, then Chinese and Indonesians. There are nine Egyptians.

Naseerullah Babar, the Interior Minister, told parliament that the university was a hub of terrorist activity. Malik Mairaj Khalid, the rector, was stunned. "Some intelligence agencies foolishly misled the minister into making that statement. They told him what they thought he wanted to hear."

There is little doubt that students with a revolutionary bent do slip through unreliable screening. Some Afghans are doubtless linked to warlords. Pakistan's fundamentalist Jamaat-i-Islami is popular among many Pakistani students. "The university attracts a certain kind of student," a senior analyst said. "Anybody interested solely in academic studies would go somewhere else."

Ramzi Yusuf, suspected mastermind in the World Trade Centre bombing in New York, was said to have visited the student halls. He was arrested after a South African student reported him to police.

For all its sudden notoriety, the university has never been regarded as a hub for terrorism. Not so the 50,000 *madrassas* (Islamic schools) around the country, which turn out graduates who are experts on the Koran but know almost nothing else. They are the driving force behind the Taleban students' army that controls about a third of Afghanistan. If there is a hub of student terrorism in Pakistan, the *madrassas* are surely it.

Islamic party wears double face of peace and war

By Christopher Thomas

THE biggest, best disciplined of Pakistan's religious parties, Jamaat-i-Islami, is the one the Government of Benazir Bhutto most professes to hate.

Jamaat raises money, and probably guns, for the uprising in Indian Kashmir, which it calls a jihad (holy war). It aids Muslim militants in the Xinjiang region of China and supports anti-government Islamic forces in Egypt. It is linked with Islamic radicals throughout the world.

Its very name is seen by some in the West as a synonym for violent revolution. Qazi Hussain Ahmad, its leader and a Senate member, laughs at such notoriety. The term "fundamentalist" created many misunderstandings, he said. Even Miss Bhutto had been told by her party to stop describing Pakistan as a frontline state against Islamic fundamentalism. "Many people in many movements, who have different attitudes and different policies, have been put together under this general term."

Is Jamaat fundamentalist? "I always ask people from the West to tell me what they mean by the term," he said. "Then I can answer them." It is a party of contradictions, declaring itself non-violent while supporting violent action abroad; insisting that it is a friend of democracy, but ready to deal with Pakistan's past military dictatorships. Jamaat has been directly involved in trouble spots in Kashmir, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan and Chechenia.

The influence of Jamaat and other religious parties can be traced primarily to Zia ul-Haq, the late army dictator, who made the religious parties disproportionately important in return for their cooperation. The armed forces remain a crucial base. "The Pakistan Army is an Islamic army," the Qazi said at his Lahore headquarters. "Islam is its principal motivation."

He blames Western lobbies, including "the Zionists", for the Government's attacks on religious parties. The West had nothing to fear from Islam. He professed to know nothing about the alleged attempt by some officers in the Pakistan Army, arrested in October and awaiting trial, to stage an Islamic coup. "The accused should be given a fair chance to give their point of view," he said. "I do not agree with such methods of bringing about an Islamic revolution."

Professor Khurshid Ahmad, deputy leader of Jamaat, believes the Pakistan Government speaks against religious parties under pressure from the United States and Egypt. "The Government is foolish not to realise what a dirty game those two countries are playing," he said.

Zia ul-Haq: he promoted the religious parties

Resentful young French Muslims flock back to the faith

Marseilles at heart of racist battles as new flames fan ancient enmities

From Susan MacDonald in Marseilles

IN 1944 the French officer commanding the assault on the Basilica of Notre Dame de la Garde high above Marseilles declared that merit for its recapture should go entirely to the Virgin Mary.

But it was not the soldiers of Christ who bravely climbed the rocky La Garde hill and drove off the occupying forces, it was the worshippers of Allah: the soldiers under French command were not French but Algerian.

While Algerians were required to be loyal to France, French governments did not feel the need to return the compliment. On VE-Day in 1945, in Algeria a march in the small town of Sétif demanding Algerian independence got out of hand with the killing of an estimated 130 Europeans. As a reprisal, about 6,000 Algerians were massacred. The subsequent Algerian war of independence left a legacy of hatred.

It is against that painful backdrop that France's relationship with fundamentalist Islam is being played out. Nowhere does it come more sharply into focus than in Marseilles, for centuries the country's window on the Islamic world. This year the eight bombings in France, which have been attributed to Algerian Islamic fundamentalists, have aroused those feelings once more and there are French people who regard Algerians living in France as the enemy within.

Notre Dame de la Garde rises above Marseilles old port

Marseilles has always been a first port of call for foreigners coming from Mediterranean countries, and a tenth of the city's 840,000 population came originally from Algeria. Bai Fellahaddin, a journalist living in France for 20 years, says the number of immigrants from Algeria — legal and illegal — is increasing as more people flee the violence at home. As a result, the National Front has never had it so good in this area of France. The bombings in Paris and the rise in Islamic fundamentalism on the other side of the Mediterranean have made it acceptable for people to express racist feelings openly.

When I took a taxi in Marseilles, I was lectured by the driver: "You have lots of Arabs in Britain, don't you?" "Not so many," I said. "Yes you do, I saw a television programme about what is going on — and you are too easy on them. You allow them to pray openly in mosques and to meet together. That is no good. They have to be watched and kept down. You know what happens? They make bombs in England and then bring them to France and set them off."

The Front has gained control of Toulon and has a strong influence on Marseilles's right-wing council. In Toulon the town council is gentrifying the old part of town near the port. The Algerians and other North Africans who have lived there for years are being moved out and put into high-rise flats on the outskirts of town. Last month Jean-Marie Le Pen, the National Front leader, gave the Front's mayors orders to apply racist policies rigidly in their cities, even if they were in breach of the law.

In Marseilles the second generation have grown up, out of work and forming gangs which go on the prowl when not kicking their heels in the dust outside their homes. They do not want to be Algerian and they are not accepted by the French.

Over a coffee on the Marseilles esplanade Abdel Bekkar Kader, a writer in his late twenties, told me an integration joke. Muhammad was bullied at school until he agreed to change his name to François. At home he refused to answer to the name of Muhammad, telling his parents he was called François. His father gave him a good hiding. Back at school, his new-found friends are concerned. "François, how did you get those bruises?" "Oh, it was terrible," he says. "I was set upon by Arabs."

At La Grande Mosquée Etislah, Imam Abdel Doudi, who was banned from Algeria for extremist Islamic activities and arrived in France in the 1970s, said: "The French Government is frightened of Islam. But terrorism is terrorism: it has nothing to do with Islam. God never told anyone to put a bomb in the Paris underground stations."

"Who did plant them?"

"The Algerian Government, although they may have used Islamic believers who have lost their way to do their work for them.

"Of course, Islam is growing in France. Young men and women are drawing closer to the faith. Unemployment and being treated as outcasts are seeing to that. Islam offers them something important. But you must not see an extremist behind every beard or every headscarf."

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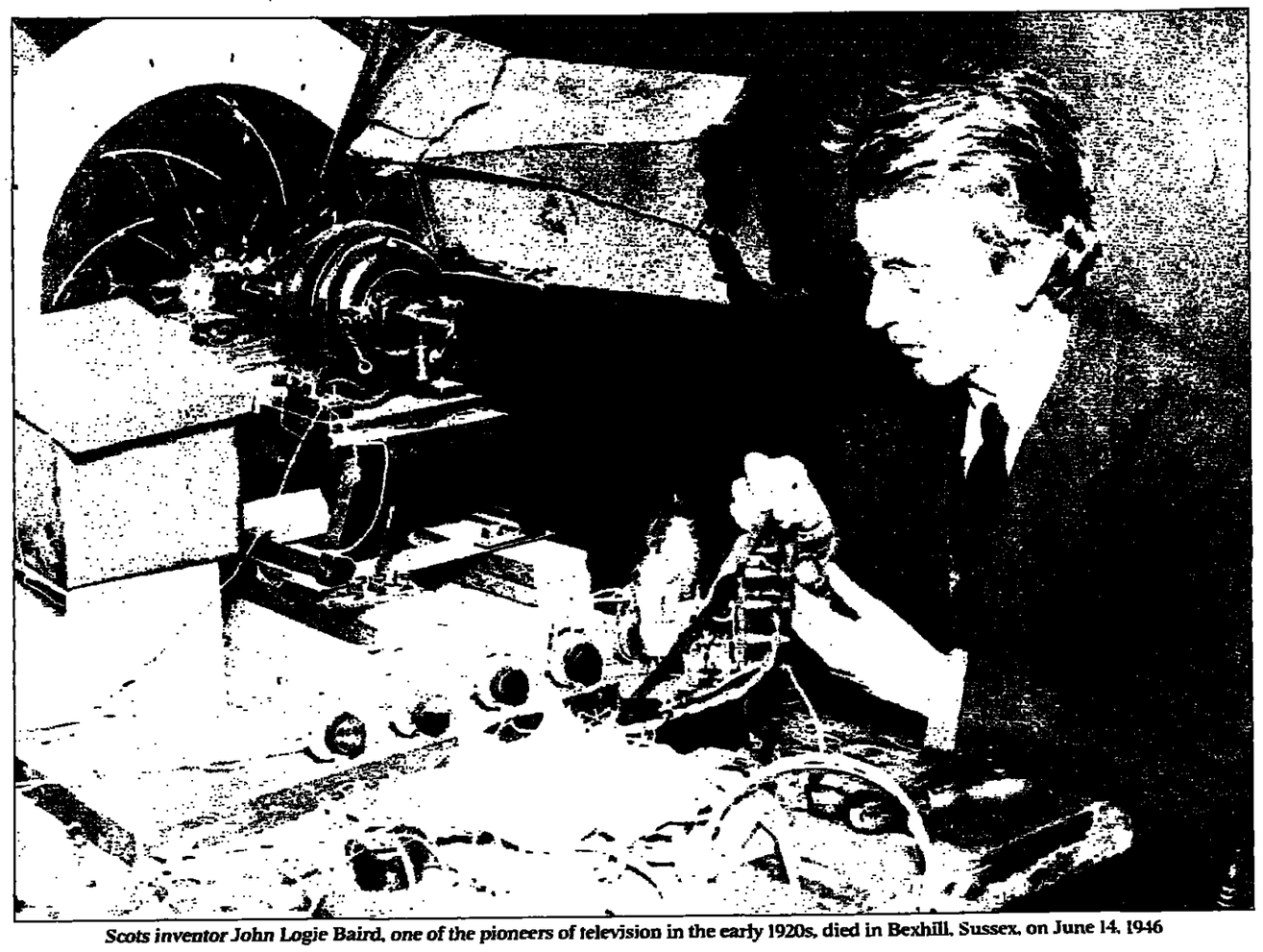
The anniversaries of 1996

Next year marks the 50th birthday of the United Nations, the 100th birthday of the modern Olympics, the 50th anniversary of the death of W.C. Fields and 150 years since the discovery of Neptune. **Jack Lonsdale** highlights the arrivals, departures and significant events of the year



Scots inventor John Logie Baird, one of the pioneers of television in the early 1920s, died in Bexhill, Sussex, on June 14, 1946

JANUARY
2 William Thorne (1857-1946), Labour leader, died London.
Eleanor Rathbone (1872-1946), social reformer, died London.
3 William Joyce, known as Lord Haw-Haw (1906-46), Nazi broadcaster, hanged for treason, London.
8 Paul Verlaine (1844-96), French poet, died Paris.
10 First session of the United Nations General Assembly, London, 1946.
13 Jan Van Goyen (1596-1656), Dutch painter, born Leiden.
14 Joseph Herman Hertz

Kate Greenaway, born 1846

(1872-1946), Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth since 1913, died London.
John Dos Passos (1896-1970), American novelist and poet, born Chicago.
15 Matthew Brady (1823-96), American photographer, of the Civil War, died New York.
20 George Burns, American comedian, born 1896, New York.
25 Frederick Leighton, Baron Leighton of Stretton (1830-96), painter, president of the Royal Academy 1878-96, died London.
28 Sir Francis Drake (1540?-96), circumnavigator, died, on board *Defiance*, off Porto Bello.
Sir Joseph Barnby (1838-96), composer, died London.

First vaccination in 1796

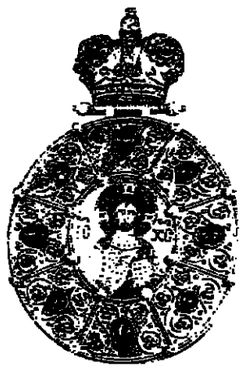
30 Francis Herbert Bradley (1846-1924), philosopher, born London.

FEBRUARY
4 Robert Blair (1699-1746), poet, died Abbotsford.
Sir Herbert Baker (1862-1946), architect, died Cobham, Kent.
5 George Arliss (1868-1946), actor, died London.
12 Ambroise Thomas (1811-96), French composer, died Paris.
13 Giovanni Cambini (1746-1825), Italian composer and violinist, born Leghorn.
14 Edward Arthur Milne (1896-1950), mathematician, born Hull.
18 Martin Luther (1483-1546), German Protestant reformer, died Eisleben.
Wilson Barrett (1846-1904), actor and dramatist, born near Chelmsford.
20 Sir Hugh Allen (1869-1946), musician, died Oxford.
26 William F. Cody (Buffalo Bill) (1846-1917), born Scott County, Iowa.
29 Morarji Desai, (1896-1995), Prime Minister of India 1977-79, born Bhadeli.

MARCH
1 George Wishart (1513?-46), Scottish reformer, burnt at the stake, St Andrews.
2 Logan Pearsall Smith (1865-1946), writer, died London.
5 Giovanni Battista Tiepolo (1696-1770), Italian painter, born Venice.
Winston Churchill made his "Iron Curtain" speech at Fulton, Missouri, 1946.
13 Kate Greenaway (1846-1901), artist, born London.
19 Stephen Storace (1763-96), composer, died London.
20 Sir Thomas Elyot (1490?-1546), diplomat and author, died Carleton, Cambridgeshire.
Henry Handel Richardson, pen name of Ethel Florence Richardson (1870-1946), novelist, died Fairlight, Sussex.
22 John Liston (1776?-1846), actor, died London.
Thomas Hughes (1822-96), author of *Tom Brown's School Days*, died Brighton.
Randolph Caldecott (1846-86), artist, born Chester.
25 Michael Davitt (1846-86), Irish revolutionary, born Straide, Co Mayo.
30 Francisco Goya y Lucientes (1746-1828), painter, born Fuente de Todos, Spain.
31 René Descartes (1596-1650), French philosopher, born La Haye.
John Standish Vereker, VC, first Viscount Gort (1886-1946), field-marshal, died London.

APRIL
4 Robert E. Sherwood (1896-1965), American dramatist, born New Rochelle, New York.
6 The first modern Olympic Games opened in Athens, 1896.
8 The League of Nations held its final meeting, 1946.
15 Filippo Brunellschi (1377-1446), Italian architect, born Florence.
16 Defeat of the Scots at Culloden, 1746.
21 John Maynard Keynes, Baron Keynes (1883-1946), economist, died Tilton, Sussex.
26 Charles Harry St John Hornby (1867-1946), printer, died Dorchester.
27 Edward I defeated the Scots at Dunbar, 1296; in August he returned to London with the stone of Scone.
Sir Henry Parkes (1815-96), Australian statesman, died Sydney.

MAY
3 Alfred William Hunt (1830-96), landscape painter, died London.
5 Henryk Sienkiewicz (1846-1916), Polish novelist, Nobel laureate 1905, born Wola Okrzejska.
Daily Mail, founded by Lord Northcliffe, was first published, price one halfpenny, 1896.
7 Sir Thomas Hanmer (1677-1746), Speaker of the House of Commons 1714-15, died Mildenhall, Suffolk.
10 Jean de La Bruyère (1645-96), French writer, died Versailles.
14 The first vaccination, against smallpox was made by Edward Jenner, 1796.
16 Henry John Elwes (1846-1922), entomologist and botanist, born Colesbourne, Gloucestershire.
18 Peter Carl Fabergé (1846-1920), Russian goldsmith and jeweller, born St Petersburg.
19 Sir Michael Balcon (1896-1977), film producer, born Birmingham.
20 Clara Schumann (1819-96), German pianist and composer, died Frankfurt.
24 Edward Armitage (1817-96), historical painter, died Tunbridge Wells.
25 Ernest Rhys (1859-1946), founder-editor of *Everyman's Library*, died London.
26 Edmund (922?-46), King



Fabergé, born 1846

of the English 940-46, killed, Pucklechurch, Gloucs.
29 David Beaton (1494-1546), Cardinal Archbishop of St Andrews, murdered, St Andrews.
30 Sir Philip Watts (1846-1926), naval architect, born Deptford.
Howard Hawks (1896-1977), American film director, born Goshen, Indiana.

JUNE
3 James Hook (1746-1827), composer and organist, born Norwich.
6 Gerhart Hauptmann (1862-1946), German dramatist and poet, Nobel laureate 1912, died Agnetendorf, Germany.
R.C. Sherriff (1896-1975), dramatist, born Hampton Wick, Surrey.
10 Italy became a republic, 1946.
11 Sir George Dasent (1817-96), scholar, assistant editor, *The Times*, died Ascot.
14 Colin Maclaurin (1698-1746), mathematician, died Edinburgh.
John Logie Baird (1888-1946), television pioneer, died Bexhill.
19 Wallis Warfield, Duchess of Windsor (1896-1986), born Baltimore, Maryland.
22 Benjamin Robert Haydon (1786-1846), historical painter, committed suicide, London.
Sir Augustus Harris (1852-96), impresario, died Folkestone.
23 Sir Joseph Prestwich (1812-96), geologist, died Shoreham, Kent.
Sir Charles Oman (1860-1946), historian, died Oxford.
26 Repeal of the Corn Laws, 1846.
27 Charles Stewart Parnell (1846-91), Irish political leader, born Co Wicklow.

JULY
1 Gottfried Wilhelm Leibnitz (1646-1716), German philosopher, born Hanover.
Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811-96), American novelist, died Hartford, Connecticut.
3 Henry Grattan (1746-1830), Irish statesman, born Dublin.
11 Paul Nash (1889-1946), artist, died Boscombe, Cornwall.
16 Anne Askew (1521-46), Protestant martyr, burnt at the stake, London.
Jean Baptiste Corot (1796-1875), French landscape painter, born Paris.
19 A.J. Cronin (1896-1981), novelist, born Cardross.
21 Robert Burns (1759-96), poet, died Dumfries.
23 James Maxton (1885-1946), politician, died Largs, Scotland.
27 Gertrude Stein (1874-1946), American writer, died Paris.
29 John Owens (1790-1846), founder of Owens College, Manchester, died Manchester.
30 Raymond Massey (1896-1983), Canadian actor, born Toronto.

AUGUST
8 Sir Godfrey Kneller (1646-1723), painter, born Lübeck.
9 Léonide Massine (1896-1979), ballet dancer and choreographer, born Moscow.
10 Smithsonian Institution, Washington, was founded with a bequest from James Smithson (1765-1829), 1846.
Julius Salter Elias, Viscount Southwood (1878-1946), newspaper proprietor (*People*, *Daily Herald*), died London.
13 Sir John Millais (1829-96), painter, a founder of the Pre-Raphaelite movement, president of the Royal Academy 1896, died London.
Herbert George Wells (1866-1946), author, died London.
19 John Flamstead (1646-1719), first Astronomer Royal, born Denby, Derbys.
21 Asher Durand (1796-1886), American painter, born Jefferson Village, New Jersey.
Albert Ball, VC (1896-1917), First World War fighter pilot, born Nottingham.
26 Battle of Crécy, the first battle of the Hundred Years' War, 1346.
31 Harley Granville-Barker (1877-1946), actor, producer and dramatist, died Paris.

William Morris, died 1896

SEPTEMBER
3 Nicolo Amati (1596-1684), Italian violin maker, born Cremona.
16 Sir James Jeans (1877-1946), mathematician and astronomer, died Dorking.
18 James Shirley (1596-1666), dramatic poet, born Clevedon, Somerset.
23 The planet Neptune was discovered by the German astronomer John Galle, 1846.
24 F. Scott Fitzgerald (1896-1940), American novelist, born St Paul, Minnesota.
27 Geoffrey de Havilland (1910-46), test pilot, killed testing DH108, London.
29 BBC Third Programme began, 1946.

OCTOBER
3 William Morris (1834-96), poet, artist, manufacturer and socialist, died London.
5 Francis Neil Gasquet (Dom Aidan) (1846-1914), cardinal and historian, born London.
6 George Westinghouse (1846-1914), American inventor, born Central Bridge, New York.
George du Maurier (1834-96), artist and novelist, died London.
7 Christopher Richard Wynne Nevinson (1889-1946), artist, died London.
10 Charles Warner (1846-1909), actor, born London.
11 Anton Bruckner (1824-96), Austrian composer, died Vienna.
Edward Whit Benson (1829-96), Archbishop of *Canterbury* 1882-96, died Hawarden, Clwyd.
14 Lilian Gish (1896-1993), American actress, born Ohio.
16 Sir Granville Bantock (1868-1946), composer, died London.
Ten Nazi war criminals were hanged at Nuremberg: Goering committed suicide, 1946.
22 James Northcote (1746-1831), painter and author, born Plymouth.
24 David Roberts (1796-1834), painter, born Edinburgh.
26 Robert Johnson (1770-96), engraver and painter, died Kenmore, Tayside.

Lilian Gish, born 1896

Charles Prestwich Scott (1846-1932), editor of the *(Manchester) Guardian* 1871-1929, born Bath.
28 William Dobson (1610-46), portrait painter, died London.
Auguste Escoffier (1846-1935), "the king of chefs" and "the chef of kings", born Villeneuve-Loubert, France.
Howard Hanson (1896-1981), American composer, born Wahoo, Nebraska.

NOVEMBER
1 Edmund Blunden (1896-1974), poet, born London.
3 Lady Elizabeth Butler (1846-1933), painter, born, Lausanne.
4 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) was established in Paris, 1946.
14 Manuel de Falla (1876-1946), Spanish composer, died Alta Gracia, Argentina.
First London to Brighton motorcar run, celebrating the repeal of the "Red Flag Act", 1896.
16 Sir Oswald Mosley (1896-1980), politician, leader of the British Union of Fascists, born London.
17 Catherine II (the Great) (1729-96), Empress of Russia 1762-96, died Tsarskoye.
21 Sir Benjamin Richardson (1828-96), physician, died London.
23 George Darley (1795-1846), poet and mathematician, died London.
24 Percy Gardner (1846-1937), archaeologist, born London.
25 Virgil Thomson (1896-1989), American composer, born Kansas City.
26 Coventry Patmore (1823-96), poet, died Lymington.

DECEMBER
6 Lady Grizel Baillie (1665-1746), poet.
Ira Gershwin (1896-1983), American lyricist, born, Manhattan, New York.
10 Alfred Nobel (1833-96), Swedish chemist, philanthropist and founder of the prizes bearing his name, died San Remo.
Damon Runyon (1884-1946), American short story writer, died New York.
14 Tycho Brahe (1546-1601), Danish astronomer, born Knudstrup.
15 Sir Herbert Richmond (1871-1946), admiral, naval historian, died Cambridge.
25 W.C. Fields (1880-1946), American comedian, died Pasadena, California.
27 Louis Bromfield (1896-1956), American novelist, born Mansfield, Ohio.

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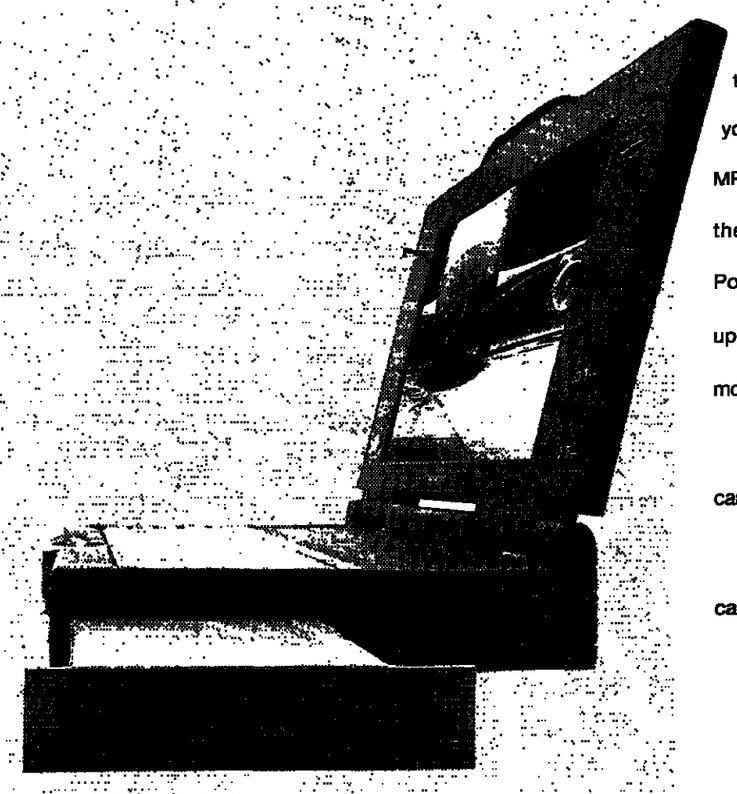

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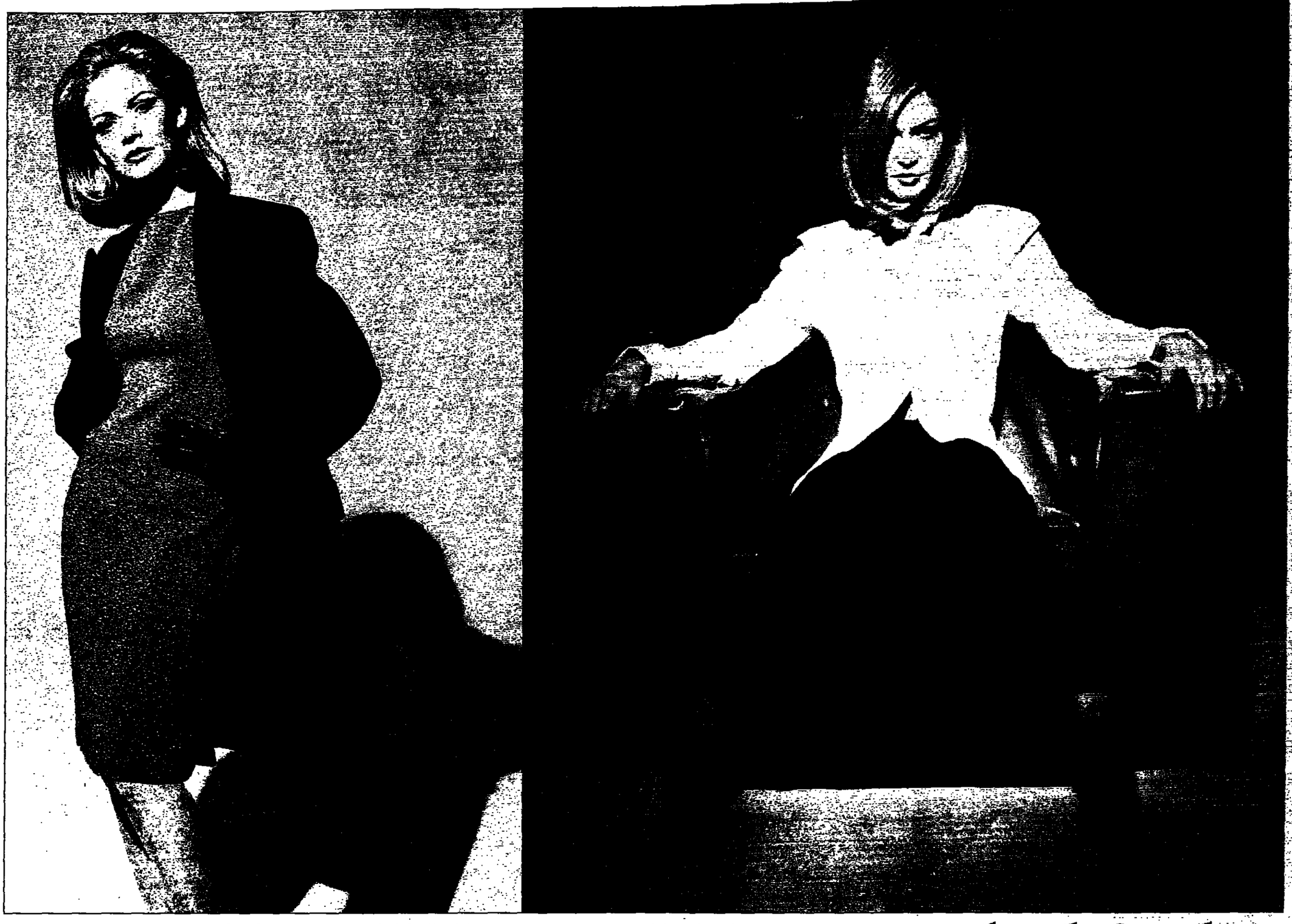

Fashion journalist of the year

IAIN R. WEBB

Early birds catch the cashmere

It's that time of year again when seemingly level-headed people go momentarily mad. The sales are upon us. Although they may promise never-to-be-repeated bargains, don't be pressured into making hasty purchases. The frenzy to find something, *anything*, can easily cost more than it saves. There are few who would not admit to owning the (literally) odd article of clothing which has never made it out of the carrier bag, let alone been worn outside the house.

Men seem to have an easier time of it at the sales, primarily because the choice is less varied. Men can simply raise their standards and buy better quality fabrics or the mundane wardrobe fillers with designer labels.

To make the sales a stress-free zone, *The Times* asked fashion experts to share their tips. They all say, stick to the classics, stock up on useful items (scarves and tights for women, shirts and ties for men), and, even though it is being touted as the hottest colour for next summer, don't touch anything in lime green. It may seem boring if your booty is only half a dozen pairs of opaque tights, or one rollneck sweater, but think of them as plain luxuries.

AMANDA WAKELEY
fashion designer:

1. Go for investment pieces rather than trend pieces. The sales are effectively the end of the season and however good the bargain is, if it is a high-fashion piece it will look terribly dated by the time the sales come round.
2. Spend the same in the sales as you would out of the sales but upgrade the quality of what you buy. In other words, try to buy cashmere instead of cheaper yarns, or a designer jacket at half-price instead of a high-street jacket. You will always feel well dressed and special in quality, well-made clothes. Classic basic pieces are the obvious choices in the sales — especially knitwear which generally doesn't date.
3. Tights and stockings are always worth topping up on. The department stores offer heavily discounted brands, such as Wolford, by selling off seconds or slightly imperfect goods which are virtually impossible to detect.
4. Accessories — scarves and gloves — both are relatively timeless and buying them in the sales allows you better quality for your money.
5. Quality not quantity — buy one thing you will love rather than dozens of bargains. Remember, at the end of the day a bargain is a bargain only if you really need it.

JENNY HALPERN
public relations:

1. Don't buy anything you would not want at full price.
2. Be wary of impulse buys, especially shoes. Impractical shoes are no fun at the end of an evening.
3. Stick to the colours you usually wear — it is a bit of a shock to be seen in canary yellow — even if it is the "hottest" thing — when you are a black and white person.
4. Enter yourself on the customer mailing list for your favourite shops because there will be a preview, eg, Catherine Walker, Ermenegildo Zegna, Hermès. This is good for two reasons — first, you get to look at the best selection earlier than everyone else and secondly, the queues that form at some shops for the sale can be a nightmare.
5. Always ask when the sale is going to be — it can be very annoying if you have bought something a week before the sale starts and then find it is discounted by 50 per cent.

ANNA HARVEY
deputy editor, *Vogue*:

1. Go early.
2. Analyse the gaps in your wardrobe and make a list of what you need before you go. This may help you to avoid invariably disastrous impulse buys that force you to purchase at least three new items to make that lime green skirt fit in your wardrobe.
3. Avoid anything that screams of last season's colours and styles. Opt for the timeless classics — black polo-

Continued on facing page

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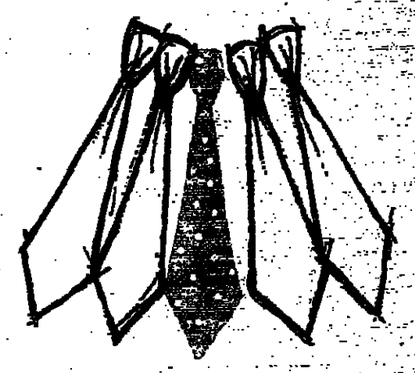
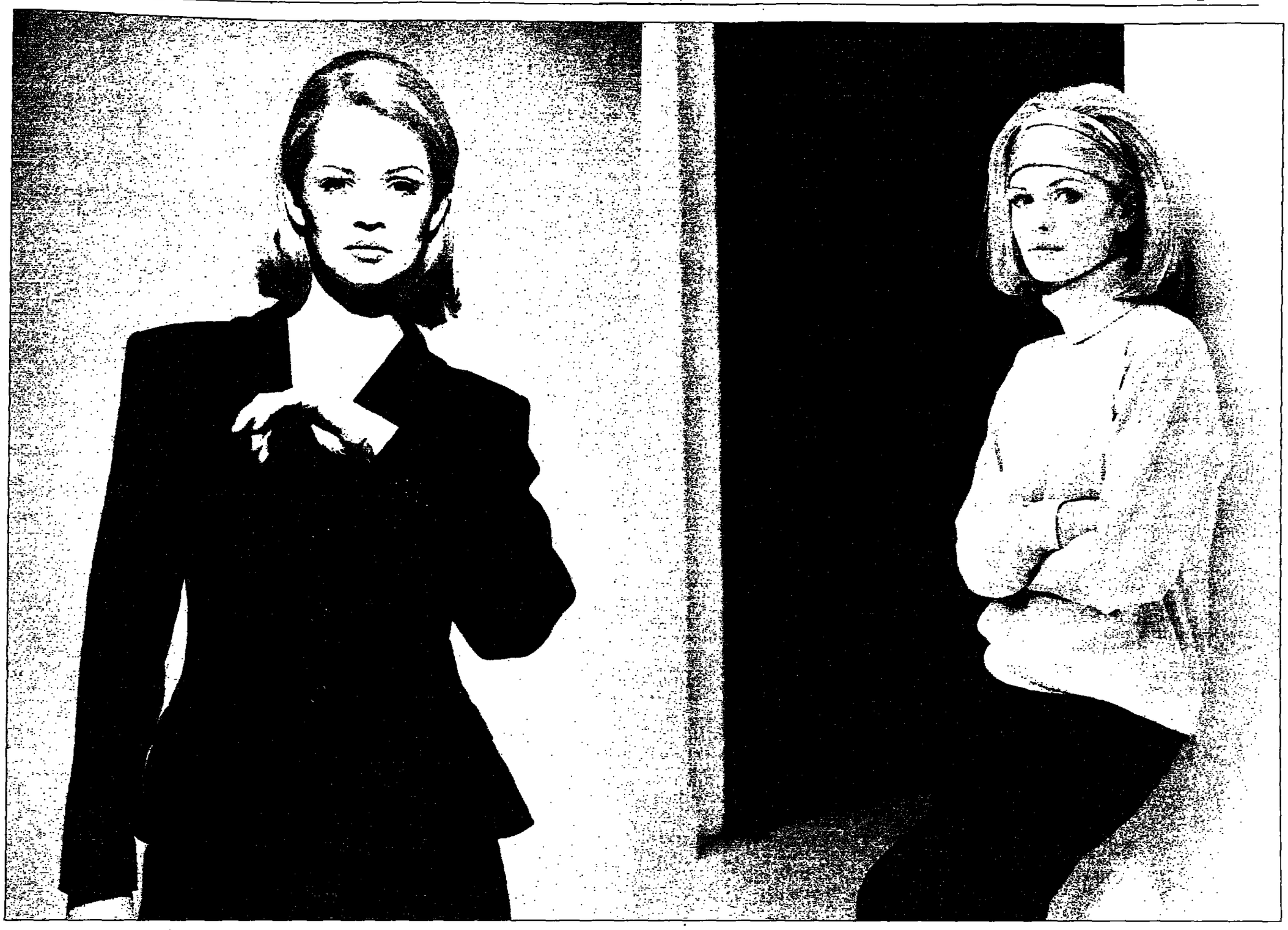
BLAZER SALE



STARTS TODAY
major reductions throughout the store
Including business shirts @ £25, £27.50 or 3 @ £69.95

. . . and don't buy anything wacky — the only reason it's on sale is because it didn't sell in the first place



Continued from facing page

necks, a great white shirt, a sharp neutral jacket will work *for you in the future.*

4. Go to Liberty's for scarves, Harrods for underwear, Windsmoor/Planet for fantastic reductions on winter coats. Big department stores tend to have better sales than boutiques.

5. January sales are often a good time to look for bargains on evening wear. Again, avoid anything "high" fashion. Snap up a good-quality black dress in a luxurious fabric or something you know that you will wear and wear.

6. Don't fall into the trap of buying anything that is ill-fitting, even if it seems like an incredible bargain. It is improbable that you will lose 5lb just to squeeze into a pair of moleskin jeans, no matter how *gorgeous.*

7. Hold out until the end. The best bargains often come at the end of February. *Corner* friendly sales staff and ask them whether *something is likely to go down in price.*

8. Don't attempt too much at once. Target a couple of big stores in one outing and *really* go for it.

9. Go alone if you are short of time. Shopping with a friend can be fun, but not if you end up straying from the shops of your choice and hanging around outside a sticky changing room for hours while she tries on seven items.

10. Avoid special purchase items.

SUSIE FAUX
owner, Wardrobe:

1. Don't try shopping in new shops during sale time. Go to shops where you are familiar with the stock and know you will get good advice.

2. Buy jackets. Go for single-breasted styles which are very fashionable. Buy longer lengths because shorter lengths date more quickly.

3. Select plain colours and fabrics; they are less likely to date than patterns and are more likely to complement the rest of your wardrobe.

4. Avoid all bright colours as they tend to be seasonal.

5. Invest in accessories.

6. Make sure that you have the right shoes at home to go with whatever you are buying.

7. *Think about buying a coat.* A lot of coats are available to buy as it's still cold in January and February.

8. Use sales as an opportunity to buy what may seem like a *luxury, ie, a hat.*

TANYA BRYER
presenter, Sky News:

1. Always check the mark-down — is it really a bargain?

2. Don't hit all the sales in one day. you'll get tired — *try* to spread it out.

3. Before you venture out to the sales, *check what you* really need to complement your wardrobe.

4. Try to go sale-hunting in the first few days.

5. Go for luxury items — classics, coats, suits, cashmere.

6. Buy practical things, such as underwear, nightwear and tights.

7. Go alone so you can have a good rummage around.

BEN DE LISI
fashion designer:
(Women):

1. This is a good time to invest in classic pieces, such a cashmere, twinsets and skinny turtleneck sweaters in classic colours. Go to the TSE cashmere departments in Harvey Nichols and Liberty.

2. Manolo Blahnik — for evening wear shoes, you will keep them forever.

3. Buy a great coat. A la *Mode* for cashmere Prada coats.

4. Pollyanna is an oasis of goodies for those people living outside London. Look for white shirts, cashmere and Jil *Sander suits.*

5. Prada — out of curiosity to see if there is the perfect outfit.

(Men):

1. Joseph — a great sale. I always look for reinvented classics, eg, Comme des Garçons or Dolce & Gabbana, but not the trendy pieces. Joseph also has good deals on knit-wear and *trousers.*

2. Ralph Lauren — I always find something I cannot live *without in this sale.*

3. Cashmere — buy the TSE classic colours.

4. Prada — anything that fits: this is a favourite collection of mine — a style that is sexy, discrete and rich without major trendy design details.

5. Liberty — Tom Logan has created a treasure trove. I would check out Comme des Garçons, Yoji Yamamoto and white shirts.

6. Don't be tempted to buy anything that seems "this season" — if you have lived without it for a year you can live without it, full stop!

LIZ WALKER
executive fashion editor,
Marie Claire:

1. Never buy anything that *does not fit, ie,* if sleeves are too long/short, if it's too tight or too loose.

2. *Don't buy anything that's* too wacky. The reason for such items being on sale is because they *didn't sell in the* first place.

3. Don't buy anything too *boring or the same — you* don't want four pairs of black trousers that look similar.

4. A good *time to buy luxury* items such as cashmere.

5. Don't buy things that are too *directional. Lime green may* be in fashion right now but what about next winter?

JANE PROCTER
Editor, Tatler:

1. Go shopping with a list of things you need. Don't *deviate.*

2. Consider if lime green really has a place in your wardrobe.

3. *Recce the week before. If you* are still thinking about something a week later, you may really want it.

4. Think not what you want now, but what you will want tomorrow. Only classics will last until next year.

5. If you can bear the thought of wearing something once for a crazy party then you will get that £1,000 dress for £250. Remember, however, that it is an investment in compliments rather than one in cost per wearability.

6. Finally, you may not want more black clothes, but it's probably what you need.

GLEN CAMPBELL
resident fashion expert
This Morning:
(Women):

1. Make a list of what you need. There is nothing worse *than buying something you* think is a great bargain then never wearing it.

2. *If you are shopping with a* friend, never be persuaded to buy anything you don't really need.

3. If you have to buy something glitzy and sparkly for *that special party on New* Year's Eve, then wait until December 27 when it will be at *a snip of a price.*

4. The January sales should be the only time you buy a good quality, classic coat. This purchase should last two to three years, so avoid heavily styled garments.

5. *If you cannot bring yourself* to pay designer prices and think people that do are crazy, *now is the time to experience* that Liz Hurley feeling.

(Men):

1. Just because you are buying goods at a reduced price doesn't mean you lose all your rights to return, exchange, or even, in some cases, get cash back.

2. Men's suits. Designers such as Paul Smith, Giorgio Armani, Donna Karan, Comme des Garçons and Prada all do great suits and now is the time to buy them. Even in the sales they are still very expensive, but the cut, the fabric and the finish mean it is worth paying that little bit extra.

3. *Knitwear:* why wear lambswool when there is cashmere? It should be at the top of your shopping list and will turn out to be one of your most treasured *items.*

4. *Work clothes: if your job* requires you to wear a shirt and tie every day, sales are *your perfect opportunity to* stock up. But don't get carried away — there are sales twice a year.

5. For staples such as denims, sweatshirts, T-shirts, underwear *(Y-fronts, not boxers)* and workboots, look in department stores for American *brands — ie, Polo, Klein, Levi.* These sales usually start early and have the best reductions.

FACING PAGE: Left: Grey wool double-breasted coat, £149 *from* £199, Planet, Selfridges, *Oxford St, W1. Black and white* tweed dress, £137 from £275, Miu Miu Liberty Regent Street, W1. Black leather gloves, £29.95 from £39.95, Harrods, *Knightsbridge, SW1*

Right: White cotton shirt, £133 from £190, Donna Karan, Browns, 23-27 South Molton Street, W1. Black long jersey skirt, £129 from £185, Ben de Lisi, Harrods, as above. Black satin shoes with diamante buckles, £129 from £185, Gina, 189 Sloane St, SW1. Tights, Sock Shop, branches nationwide.

THIS PAGE: Left: Black wool single breasted jacket with matching *flippy skirt,* £285 from £425, Liberty, as above.

Right: *Pale beige cashmere polo neck,* £129 *from £189,* TSE, Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1. Black wool wide-leg trousers (part of a suit), £290 from £415, Paul Smith, 40 Floral St, WC2; Smith and Westwood, Clayton Square, Liverpool. Silk scarf, £49 from £95, Liberty as before.

Photographs by MIKE PENN. Hair by Gary Halliday. Make-up by Emma Kotch. Styling by Philippa Esling.

THE SALES — WHEN TO SHOP

Already begun:

COMME DES GARÇONS, 59 Brook Street, W1.
GINA, 189 Sloane Street, SW1

Today:

FENWICKS, New Bond Street, W1.
SELFRIDGES, Oxford Street, W1.
MONSOON, branches nationwide.
BURBERRYS, 18-22 Haymarket, SW1, 165 Regent Street, W1.
JAEGER, branches nationwide.
OASIS, branches nationwide.
BETTY JACKSON, 311 Brompton Road, SW3.
SIMPSON, Piccadilly, W1.
AUSTIN REED, branches nationwide.
THE SCOTCH HOUSE, branches nationwide.
LIBERTY, 214-220 Regent Street, W1.
GIEVES & HAWKES, 1 Savile Row, W1.
KURT GEIGER, 95-97 New Bond Street, W1.
HARVEY NICHOLS, 109 Knightsbridge, SW1
GIORGIO ARMANI, 37 Sloane Street, SW1.
JOSEPH, 77 Fulham Road, SW3

Tomorrow:

DNKY, 27 Old Bond Street, W1

January 2:

MAX MARA, 32 Sloane Street, SW1; 153 New Bond Street, W1.
ERMENEGILDO ZEGNA, 37 New Bond Stret, W1; 42 Shelton Street, WC2.

January 3:

HARRODS, Knightsbridge, SW1.

January 4:

LOEWE, 130 New Bond Street, W1.
HERBERT JOHNSON, 30 New Bond Street, W1.
BROWNS, 23-27 South Molton Street, W1.

January 6:

HERMES, 179 Sloane Street, SW1; 155 New Bond Street, W1.
JOHN LOBB, 90 Jermyn Street, SW1.
POLO RALPH LAUREN, 143 New Bond Street, W1

January 10:

CATHERINE WALKER, Chelsea Design Company, 65 Sydney Street, SW3.

January 12:

MONOLO BLAHNIK, 49-51 Old Church Street, SW3.

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British cool in the face of a scream

How a bobby with £500,000 bagged a stolen Munch from uncultured crooks

Bernard Levin

I have been quite enchanted with the story of the stolen *Scream*, and so I should be. But I say that not just because it is a fascinating story, but because in Marylebone High Street, not 50 paces from my palatial abode, there is a somewhat puzzling shop, the owners of which have seen fit to adorn the window with not just one version of Edvard Munch's most famous picture, *The Scream*, but a dozen or more. (I bet you don't know what *The Scream* is called in its own language. Give up? It is *Skriket*, and the first person to say "That's not scricket" will incur my most severe displeasure.)

Munch's *Scream* was his most famous picture, and surely Norway's most famous one. It has been copied, disliked, admired, caricatured (see Marylebone High Street), instantly recognised, even made people shudder. Indeed, they *should* shudder, for the scream is obviously a scream of pain, or more exactly of despair. It has been said, most unkindly, that Norway is the most boring country in the world, but that cannot be true: anyone who has seen the Frogner Sculpture Park in Oslo will never be bored again — all the seeker need do is summon up the sight of what the visitor saw the first time. Nevertheless, Frogner Park or no Frogner Park, *The Scream* is truly Norway's emblem.

Munch himself tried to elucidate the picture, saying: "I was crossing a bridge by a fiord under the sunset — I sensed a scream passing through nature. I seemed to hear the scream. I painted the clouds as actual blood."

You wouldn't believe it, but in his early work he was much influenced by van Gogh and Gauguin, but they were far too bright and colourful for his gloom, and no doubt his work fitted Ibsen much better than Grieg. I am not sure, but I think he must have painted *The Scream* not in Norway but in Germany; he lived in Germany most of the time from 1892 to 1908, but had a nervous breakdown (no wonder he painted *The Scream*), and came home. His *Girls at the Bridge* at first sight suggests sunshine and happiness, but the alarming giant cabbage (or whatever it is supposed to be) spoils the harmony. Before that, though, he had had a clash with the Berlin Artists' Union. He was ordered to take down 50 of his pictures — they could hardly have been too naughty in 1893 and Berlin, so I suppose they must have been too gloomy. (Munch *too* gloomy? Come, come!) Anyway, the uproar got so wild that Max Liebermann — a forgotten figure today, but then a considerable power in these matters — marched his people out and put them together again, which is why it is called the *Sezession*. It is also said that German Expressionism started from that clash: would that it had never started at all.

But I mustn't wander any more; I must now discuss the theft of Norway's greatest picture.

I have often thought about the business of theft in art, and I have never succumbed to the widely held belief that vast numbers of great pictures and even massive sculptures are always being stolen for the delectation of wicked but enormously rich men, who own beautifully lit impregnable cellars in which they loll in comfort, sipping Krug, and admiring their latest criminal acquisitions. I say that I have never believed the picture I have painted, but I am now not so sure; I am told by Professor Michael Levi, a professor of criminology, that there is a considerable traffic in stolen art, and another voice says that there is a billion dollars a year in the artistic criminal trade.

The Scream was stolen from the National Gallery of Oslo on February 12, 1994.

Even my waverings about art theft will not stretch far enough to believe that a *very* rich wicked man had got *The Scream* and was perhaps inviting other wicked men, almost as rich, to come over and see it close up. (Come to think of it, he wouldn't, because the other jealous wicked rich men would shop the one who had landed such a prize.)

Well then, if the robbery was not for art but money, it could only be as a ransom: instead of the youngest child of the multimillionaire being kidnapped for ransom, the most famous picture had been kidnapped instead. Yes, and if the Norwegian State kept its nerve, the thief could always fall back on saying that he would destroy the picture if the State didn't pay up: here we have an example of Russian roulette.

Happily, it ended with the famous picture intact. But the story of its rescue is a story in itself.

As you may suppose, when *The Scream* went missing there were many white faces, starting with the guardians of the treasure. How had the precious jewel escaped in the first place? It seems that two men (presumably at night, because the Oslo Gallery cannot be *that* lax, surely) put a stepladder against the wall, climbed thus into the gallery and went down as they had come up, leaving no address. It was immediately obvious that the thieves knew what they were doing; this was no smash and grab, but the purloining of one of the world's most famous pictures. And that picture was now in very dangerous hands.

The picture had been valued at £30 million, though such figures can hardly have any real meaning: its notoriety was its fame, not its cost. But, as you may expect, a flood of chancers poured into the game, claiming to know where the booty was to be found, and that all would be revealed for a very substantial sum. But then a British criminal contacted a (respectable) British solicitor who had been given a tip-off, and from him it seemed that a genuine line had been thrown. The Norwegians asked for help, and got it. The head of Scotland Yard's arts and antiques squad, Detective Chief Inspector John Butler, sent out two of his men, following the hint. These two were given aliases — Chuck Roberts and Sidney Walker — and were supposed to be representatives of the Paul Getty Museum in California. The idea was that they would be taken to where the treasure was to be found, at the price of £315,000. But something went wrong; the two men somehow became separated, and back at HQ Chief Inspector Butler was getting alarmed for his men — after all, they were facing criminals, and criminals who were armed and were known to be violent.

Chuck Roberts went into the lion's den — he was taken to a hotel near the sea, not far from Oslo. There, the villains took him down to the cellar, and there he saw something wrapped in a blue bedsheet. Unwrapped, it was instantly obvious that the prize was glittering before Chuck's eyes. He was, of course, still the Getty Museum's man, and they drove back to the Oslo hotel. There, they discussed the money, first at the bar, and over breakfast the next day. The crooks wanted £300,000 for the treasure, and another £15,000 for expenses (*ah, messieurs, quelle delicatesse!*)

By now, the other undercover agent — alias Sidney Walker — had returned. The deal was that there would be two bags, one holding £200,000, the other holding £115,000. The crooks examined the money, and presumably gave it the thumbs-up. Then one of our intrepid pair went with the men for the bags of moolah, while our other hero rewrapped the picture, climbed up the hotel fire-escape (he thought it better than walking through the hotel foyer in these circumstances), and then waited patiently, but not for long, for the Oslo Force.

But alas, the villains were not men of culture or taste; indeed, they used words that should not be spoken before the young or the delicate, much less both. When the deal was slowing down, the head crook said that if the money didn't appear soon he would "eat the picture, shit it out, and send it to the Minister of Culture". Coarse and vulgar persons, indeed, but nobody could fail to understand what they meant.

All's well that ends well. But there is a wonderful image in this story, apart of course from the splendid success that the rescuers of *The Scream* had. It is the image of a British policeman, clutching a huge bag in which there was £500,000 in real money, and which he guarded with his life every moment of his travels, *though he did not know why*. He was asked, later, whether it was ever explained to him why British, rather than Norwegian, policemen should have supplied the money. "I don't know, sir," he replied, "I was given my instructions and I conveyed the money to Oslo. It was not an unusual request."

And that, dear readers, is British *sang froid*, even if it is in French.

The fight to lead from the Right

John Major's friends and enemies are circling for the kill should he fall

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Win or lose the next election, the Tories are likely to have a new leader in three or four years at most, and possibly a good deal sooner. If John Major confounds the political world yet again, he might stay until the millennium celebrations, completing a decade in office in the process. But he will hardly want to tempt the fates of political mortality, as Margaret Thatcher did, and face all the pre-election agonies for a third time. If the Tories lose, Mr Major will step down after a decent, or more likely indecent, interval, such will be the eagerness of Tory MPs to change the captain. The Tories are far more ruthless than Labour about their leaders. The past two Tory Prime Ministers to have led the party to defeat, Lord Home of the Hirsel and Sir Edward Heath, were pushed out within a year.

Leadership manoeuvring has already started. Much of the pre-Christmas infighting between pro-Europeans and sceptics was a preliminary skirmish for the contest to come. There is no obvious successor. Michael Heseltine has settled into the elder statesman role and his is now the roar of the old lion, rather than the hungry beast. Other candidates have more minuses than pluses, failing to attract support across the party.

Kenneth Clarke is currently the bogey of the Euro-sceptic Right: suspected, with some justice, of trying to ensure that Britain not only *could* but *should* enter a single currency if, or probably when, Germany and France decide to go ahead. But for all the protests of the sceptics, he is one of the Cabinet's few undisputed heavyweights. If he were forced out, the Government would be severely, possibly fatally, weakened. His manner and language are sometimes casual to the point of carelessness, but he has a strong record as Chancellor.

Moreover, Mr Clarke is prepared to fight for both his pro-European and his One Nation views. His desire to prevent any manifesto commitment ruling out British participation in a single currency in the next Parliament can also be seen as an attempt to keep open options for opposition. He may be in a similar position to Roy Jenkins in 1970. Just as Jenkins led the Labour pro-Europeans in support of the Heath Government's entry into the then European Economic Community, so Mr Clarke might lead the Tory pro-Europeans in support of a Blair government's entry into a single currency. The sceptic Right will fight to stop Mr Clarke at all costs, but his personal strengths might still appeal to Tory MPs who are not ideologically committed.

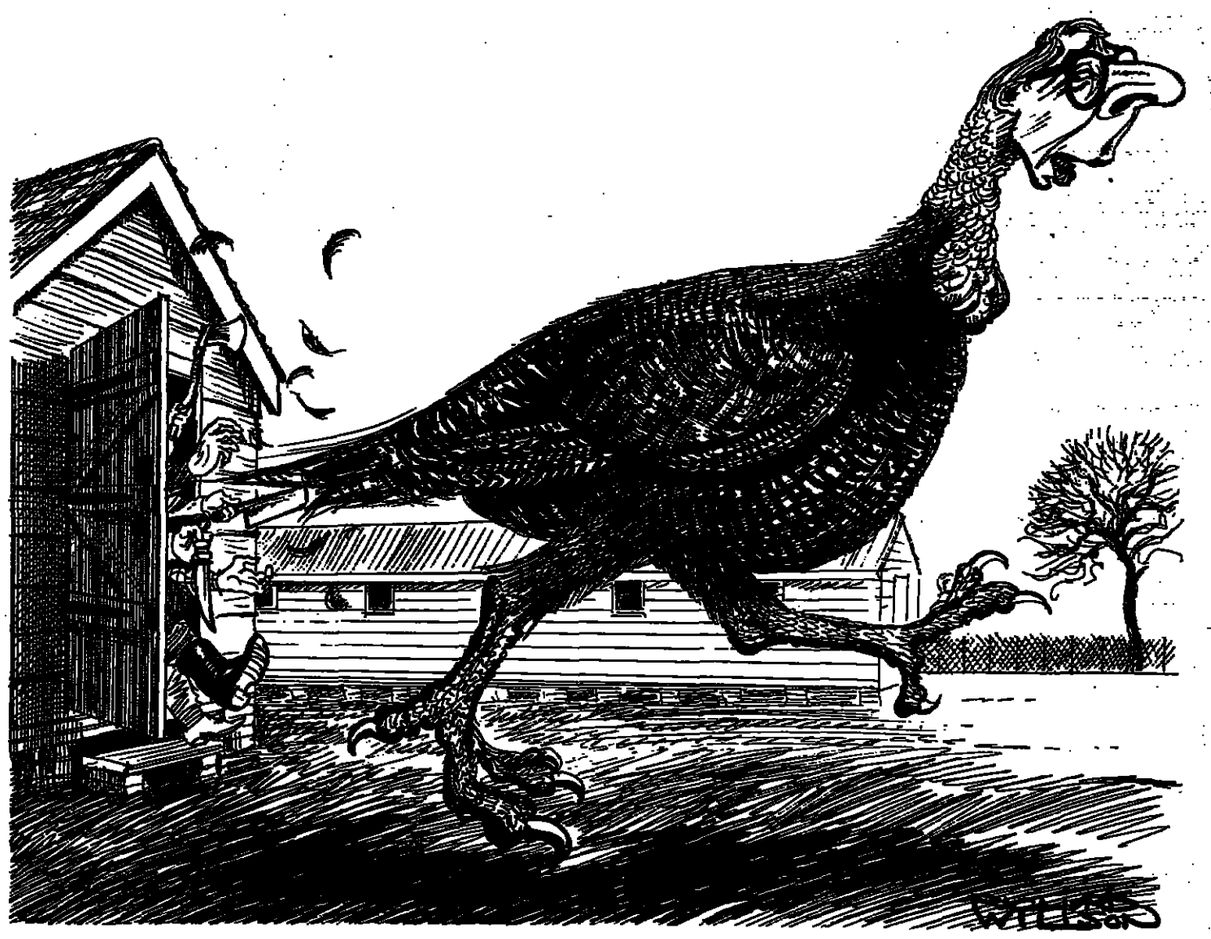
None of the Major loyalists has yet emerged as a strong runner. The obvious course for them is to shift to the right, at least in their rhetoric. Malcolm Rifkind has been making strongly sceptical noises on a single currency, yet still has not sparked enthusiasm among right-wingers, who remember his pro-European past. Stephen Dorrell has moved a long way from being the ultra-wet protégé of Peter Walker, and has been seeking to build bridges to the Right. After sulking for a year at National Heritage, he is starting to make a mark at Health. Gillian Shephard's conciliatory approach has made her appear the voice of the educational establishment and she is suspected by those who favour more radical solutions. Ian Lang has yet to assert himself publicly outside the Department of Trade and Industry; William Hague remains the rising, rather than risen, star; and Brian Mawhinney needs to live down his "Mr Angry" reputation, although he could be a runner if the Tories fight a strong campaign. After the election, Chris Patten could be a fresh player on the Tory Left.

On the Right, Michael Howard needs to escape from the constraints of the Home Office; Peter Lilley looks a Chancellor rather than a leader; and Michael Forsyth, one of the successes of the July reshuffle, could lose his marginal seat. This leaves Michael Portillo and John Redwood, the man who paused and the man who dared.

Mr Redwood has shown how quickly politics can change. Regarded a year ago as a worthy but fringe member of the Cabinet, he is now the leader of the Euro-sceptic Right. His challenge six months ago had the perverse effect both of strengthening Mr Major and of making his own name. He has at times seemed too eager to comment on every issue, but he stands well above the rest of the sceptics in the fight against a single currency.

By contrast, Mr Portillo has so far fallen between stools. Having failed to strike last summer, he should have capitalised on his enforced — and chosen — role as a loyalist by building up contacts in the Centre. But he has not. Not only has he been sidelined from the central political debate, as Defence Secretary, but his ignorant anti-Brussels rant at the Tory conference reinforced the doubts of Tory MPs about his judgment.

The risk for the Right is being tarnished by a tired and failing administration. Mr Portillo, in particular, appears unhappy. He sees Mr Redwood not only take over his base on the Right but also receive approving comments from Baroness Thatcher. Mr Portillo's leadership chances could be disappearing, so now may be the time for him to take a risk. Perhaps he should have challenged Mr Clarke over a single currency immediately after the Madrid summit, if necessary resigning from the Cabinet. That would further have undermined the slim electoral prospects of Mr Major. But many on the Right have already written off the next election and are preparing for the battles of opposition. Mr Portillo has been left floundering.



Dram good

THE AWARD for cooking Christmas lunch under the most trying of circumstances this year goes to Donald MacIver, a lighthouse keeper at Cape Wrath on the north-west point of Scotland.

On Christmas Eve, MacIver had all the provisions to hand in his lighthouse kitchen where he was planning a well-basted turkey with all the trimmings for himself and two fellow keepers. He made the mistake of nipping out in the morning to collect the Christmas mail.

Not only had the postman failed to deliver, but MacIver's Land Rover was forced off the road by a blizzard. He trekked two miles before finding a stone hut with a telephone; he called the lighthouse but the rescue party got stuck; then he bedded down for the night and dreamt of Christmas pud.

"In the morning I had to call a chopper to rescue me," he said. "I had to get back you see, because I was the cook." At two o'clock that afternoon, he placed the perfectly roasted turkey on its carving plate. And, with an understated flourish, poured himself a dram.

"We've had a traditional Christmas — we're stuck on the M25 again"

Snowed under

A BURMESE family visiting relatives in Shetland arrived to the white Christmas they were hoping for. But after travelling halfway round the world to land at the island's Sumburgh airport on Christmas Eve, the clan still hasn't reached its relations.

"They've come to the worst snowfall since 1947," said one islander. "They spent two nights at the airport because it was snowbound, then they escaped by boat to the capital Lerwick. Now they're stuck — they just can't get any closer to where mince pies are waiting."

Riding out

BITTER conditions weren't enough to keep Camilla Parker Bowles's hunt, the Beaufort, from its Boxing Day outing. Nobody hung around for long because the ground was as hard as a riding hat. "Terrible frost," explained Captain Ian Farquhar, joint master. "We hunted in the woods for about an hour and a half, very slowly and carefully, and then went home." Camilla, however, never emerged from her den.

● *For the traffic cops in Beverly Hills, life won't be the same without the late Dean Martin. They could spot the rakish old lush quicker than a bull would spy a red rag. The vanity numberplate on his sports car read: DRUNKY.*

Queen bless

WAS THE QUEEN correcting the toe-curling howler President Clin-

The Queen: word perfect

ton made on his trip to Northern Ireland when she quoted St Matthew at the end of her Christmas message: "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God"?

Clinton seemed to have got into a frightful muddle at the ceremony to switch on the Christmas lights in Belfast when he said: "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall inherit the earth." Any Sunday school teacher could have told him that Matthew had the meek, not the peacemakers, inheriting.

● *The tricksy Newcastle United forward Peter Beardsley has scored a place in the new* Collins English Dictionary. *The entry notes that à la in front of a name means "in the style of . . . ", and cites as an example: "Bradshaw made Southall scramble with a shot à la Peter Beardsley". The footballer has other things on his mind: "I have my place in the English dictionary — let's hope I keep my place in the England team."*

Head to head

THE TEST match in Port Elizabeth is a mite hairy for the South African captain Hansie Cronje, despite the decent start made by his team.

Hansie Cronje: big test ahead

So confident is Cronje that he will beat Michael Atherton that he is prepared to let his opening batsman Gary Kirsten loose on his barnet if South Africa lose the series. "He has told Kirsten that he will let him shave his head," says a source close to the team. "But not only that — he has boasted that he can chop it, burn it or pluck it off. I hope he doesn't come unstuck."

P·H·S

Alan Coren

■ Revealed: the secrets of the primordial swamp in Cricklewood

The Natural History Museum is not going to like any of this, but it has only itself to blame. Itself and my father. And Jake the Staffordshire bull terrier. Throw in Professor Mark Norell. And Michael Crichton. And Fred Flintstone. But not me. I am blameless.

Let us go back 118,000,000 years, to the Isle of Wight. Or what is now the Isle of Wight. It was not the Isle of Wight then, it was not an isle of anything, it was merely a large hummock from which, if you walked due south, you would wind up in Africa. I say you, but it was not you, of course; you had yet to evolve, walking for you was aeons away, you were not even a twinkle in a mollusc's eye. What was walking across the incipient IoW at that time, possibly bound for Kilimanjaro, possibly just back from it, was a giant iguanodon. We know it was giant, because half its arm was four feet long, and we know that because half its arm has just been dug up by Jake the Staffordshire bull terrier, who found it while out walking with his owner, John, the Isle of Wight human being. I do not know the iguanodon's name, but there was a photograph of the three of them — all right, the two-and-a-bit of them — in the papers two days before Christmas, and they all looked pleased with themselves, even the armbone, as well they might.

For they had crowned a major dinosaur year. It was a year in which seriously big bits of dinosaurs had been found everywhere — from half a stegosaurus in Yucatan and most of a diplodocus in Arizona, to, in the Gobi Desert, not merely an entire oviraptor, but an entire oviraptor brooding over its entire clutch of eggs, having been poignantly struck in mid-brood by a sudden sandstorm, to the somewhat heartless joy, 80 million years later, of Professor Mark Norell of New York, who was thus able to prove all sorts of theories for which he had hitherto lacked, literally, concrete evidence.

He got very excited, which is why I blame him, just as I blame Michael Crichton for the palaeontological mania generated by *Jurassic Park*, Fred Flintstone for coining "Yabbadabbadoo!" as the only expression adequate to Mesozoic rapture, and the Natural History Museum for pandering to all this frenzied saurophilia with its endless cheesy exhibitions; triceratops T-shirts, toy pterodactyls, Tyrannosaurus rex ice-lollies and ornithischian board games. Thanks to all these, variously worthy or commercial, dinosaurs have been manufactured into a human obsession.

Which brings me to my father. My father had an obsession of his own. He always went out on Boxing Day morning to dig the garden. A spot of digging was, he maintained, the surest way to deal with the excesses of yuletide indulgence. It cleared the head. It worked off the flab. It opened the pipes. It sorted you out. I don't know whether he believed all that (I never once saw my father hung over), but digging is what he always did, and it has come to be what I always do, because I do believe all that. For I have seen me hung over, and I know for a fact that a spot of digging works wonders, never mind the added value which a vigorous solstice aeration and a sprinkle of permeating mulch confers upon the pre-vernal sod.

So I was out there, yesterday morning, forking the robin-hopping clods and thinking about nothing in particular, when something in particular wormed its way, willy-nilly, into my thoughts. I began to think how satisfying it would be to see off Jake the Staffordshire bull terrier, and crown the dying year, at the eleventh hour, with some chart-topping fossils of my own. For Cricklewood, too, was joined to Cape Town, once big things lurched here at No 26.

By noon, I had a pile. But how is a layman to know whether this is a bone that looks like a stone, or only a stone that looks like a bone? You'd need a dog. Or a Natural History Museum. I shall be there first thing tomorrow, bin-bag in hand. It has only itself to blame.

TURKEY AND ISLAM

The West may worry: it must not panic

Kemal Ataturk, the father of modern Turkey, left his countrymen a complex legacy, a legacy with which his political descendants grapple to this day. Turkey is a Muslim country, but not an Islamic state: it has been governed, for the last seven decades, by Governments of emphatically secular hue. It is a valued member of Nato and has ever-closer links with the European Union: the European Parliament voted only days ago, and resoundingly, to extend to Ankara an important customs union. Yet in the elections held on Christmas Day — a simple proof, in itself, that the country is firmly outside the Judaeo-Christian acre — more Turkish voters turned to the Islamic Welfare party than to any other single secular option. *Tansu Ciller, the country's elegant Prime Minister, has had no choice but to resign.*

Yesterday, however, brought better news. Jolted by their reverse — which was not unexpected — the secular parties have begun a process of consultation: Mrs Ciller's True Path party has begun talks of truce with its bitter centre-right rival, the Motherland party of Mesut Yilmaz. Both scored less than the Islamists at the polls, in telling part because they directed their heaviest campaign fire against each other. If they succeed now in stitching together a coalition, perhaps with the participation of the secular Left, they will achieve the goals which have spurred this panicked rapprochement — the exclusion from Government of the Welfare party, and the protection of secularism *à la* Ataturk.

That is the outcome which Turkey's EU and Nato allies would most desire: under Mrs Ciller, Ankara has been a steadfast ally; and it would continue to be so if the new coalition arrangements were to deliver the premiership to Mr Yilmaz. Equally vital to the West is the secular example which Turkey continues to set to the newly-independent Turkic republics of Central Asia, formerly a part of the Soviet Union.

There is no escape, however, from the presence in Turkey of Islam. As Islamist organisations go, the Welfare party of Necmettin Erbakan is moderate and pragmatic: in fighting Monday's elections in an incontrovertibly democratic manner, and by offering now to the secular parties a hand of partnership, it has shown that it is different in quality from its many counterparts in North Africa and the Middle East. "We can form a coalition government with any of the other parties," Mr Erbakan said yesterday. If his election rhetoric frightened many secular Turks, his post-election conciliation has surprised them.

When a candidate of the Welfare party was elected to the mayoralty of Istanbul last year, *The Times* struck a note of sobriety against the outbreak of alarm in the West at the time. "Fears of the Fall of Constantinople are exaggerated," we wrote, arguing that while there was no room for complacency, there was none for hysteria either. We pointed out that the party had profited from a protest vote — against corruption, against maladministration, against the erosion of "family values" and against soaring inflation. That was the time, clearly, for the parties of the secular Right to sink their differences. They did not, and paid the price at Christmas.

These elections, for all the apparent panic they have sown in the West, offer Mrs Ciller and Mr Yilmaz another opportunity to act together to safeguard Ataturk's legacy: they may not get many more chances. Some good will have come from the shock of an Islamist victory if they do. The Islamists, of course, have made an emphatic point: nearly a quarter of the country's voters are prepared to adopt the political discourse of Islam as a way to protest against the murkiness of much of modern Turkey. That discourse is still relatively restrained, and has not the hard edge of Islam in Algeria. The secular parties now have the duty to ensure that Turkey's political Islam remains moderate. They have the duty to govern with care.

MAKE MY DAY

We peer today into the clubbable hubbub which rises from the end-of-year party being held by history's Geminis: the gathering of ghosts is fun, for they are a gregarious, quick-witted lot. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle discusses fellow Gemini Basil Rathbone's acting of Sherlock Holmes in the detective's Hollywood version. The late John Wayne has difficulty inserting his slow words edgeways into their conversation; the later Dean Martin sings in a voice of gravel and bourbon. Isadora Duncan dances with the Marquis de Sade. Ian Fleming stands neither stirred nor shaken and Paul McCartney provides more music.

Geminis are over-represented in literature, music and film. One safe prediction for 1996: there will be endless debate over the institution in which theatre and politics meet: the monarchy. A Gemini who stands taller than most of his contemporaries may show us something of how the chemistry of leadership works in the closing years of this century. Clint Eastwood, born on June 31 and now a venerable 66, might at first sight seem an unlikely role model for anyone anywhere. In film after film, he has squashed armies of villains against a backdrop of crashed cars and bullet-riddled buildings. The archetypal Eastwood movie takes few prisoners; Jane Austen it ain't.

But Clint Eastwood has also carved a path which has earned him respect. From monosyllabic parts in spaghetti westerns he widened his acting range, founded his own production company and learnt to direct. He continues to broaden his scope after retirement age. To the best of his bleak and reflective westerns, he recently added the delicate romance of *The Bridges of Madison County*. "There is no one else in Hollywood today who can bear up under such success," wrote one critic. "He is our knight — somehow — and he shames the astrologers, the alchemists, the courtesans and the robber barons who otherwise run the court."

Eastwood has, in other words, a rare natural authority which goes beyond mere glamour. Everywhere, we are told, political leaders lack the stature to tackle the problems of the 21st century. Passing over the fact that this complaint recurs in each generation, we might observe that a number of leaders find it impossible to exercise their qualities of leadership in politics. Who did not feel a twinge of sympathy for Colin Powell's intuition that the game of politics was not worth the candle? Clint Eastwood did venture briefly into politics but had the self-knowledge and sense to limit himself to a two-year term as Mayor of his home town in California. He attracted no global scandal or attention, stirred merely local controversy and confounded speculation that he might reach higher up America's political ladder. His politics seem to rely on a quality of his acting defined by Richard Burton, who observed that Eastwood radiated "dynamic lethargy".

Our own young Prince William, another Gemini, might keep that phrase in mind. His parents' over-dynamic competition to outperform each other has harmed his family. The business of leading, inspiring and encouraging is a performance: the use of artifice to project and to convince is inevitable. Every man, as that cynical Gemini Ralph Waldo Emerson remarked, is a borrower and a mimic. But if the performance becomes a soap opera which deprives its stars of their moral authority and mystery, the balance has been upset. The House of Windsor, now closing a few of its shutters, seems to have realised that all is not well in this department. King William will not be able to return to the privacy and discretion on which his Gemini ancestors Queen Victoria or George V could rely. But he will nevertheless have to search for the "strange lustre" which hides some of that mystery which is as necessary to modern leaders as it was to ancient kings.

SWEAT AND TOIL

Hard work does not a genius make, research notwithstanding

"I have nothing to declare but my diligence and a stable family background." Mercifully, Oscar Wilde did not say that to a New York customs officer: he may never have made it to our various dictionaries of quotations if he had. He declared instead his genius, as we all know, which he possessed in abundance, even if the estimation of that abundance gained greatly from Wilde's own generous calculations.

Yet researchers at Exeter University would prefer the version with the "diligence" in it. Genius, they argue, owes more to toil than to innate aptitude. Scratch a "genius" hard, they contend, and you will find below the surface a pool of sweat and slog — of drudge, graft, grind, labour, perseverance and struggle. Yet the university johnnies have got it wrong once again. Their argument is as well-holed as some Swiss cheese; it is also profoundly joyless. We refuse to accept it, and exhort our readers to reject the thesis. Vote for genius.

Take Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. It is ludicrous even to whisper that he was not a genius, that he was not extraordinarily gifted, that his astonishing capacity to conjure music came from diligence alone. Just as the archaeopteryx was the world's first bird, Mozart was a genius: he wrote seven symphonies by the time he was 10 years old, a tally which had risen to 14 by the age of 15. And before you conclude that he had a lean symphonic patch between his tenth year and his fifteenth, bear it firmly in mind that he was also busy composing six operas, including the fine *Mitridate, Rè di Ponto*.

The boy Mendelssohn was also a genius, although not on a Mozartian scale. He composed naturally: his youthful output includes the great *Octet* and a *Midsummer Night's Dream*. The man Mendelssohn was less attractive: he became a Victorian hard-worker and was Queen V's favourite composer. The latter was like the kiss of death to his genius. He lost his flair in a mire of industriousness.

There are other examples from the world of music, and just as many from literature, theatre, cinema, philosophy, snooker-playing, cricket, religion and painting. Since the list is long, we shall not go into detail here. But it does not require genius to believe in genius. And it would take more than research — however sedulous — to show that genius does not exist.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

US motives for Bosnia initiative

From Commander William L. Nelson, US Navy (retd)

Sir, During the Cold War the US was Nato's unofficial leader, benefiting politically, militarily and economically in this role. At the Cold War's end, the US desired to retain the alliance and its leadership position. Nato remains the only organisation in which the US exercises a viable voice in European affairs.

Most Nato members also desired strong, continued US participation in Nato. But there were obstacles: the rise of other European political/economic alliances (eg, Western European Union), substantial reductions to US troop numbers on the Continent and France's long-restrained desire to lead continental Europe and subordinate the influence of the US.

Historically, alliances develop when common threats arise and dissolve when the common threat crumbles. Nato existed to counter the USSR/Warsaw Pact. Without a hostile USSR (or Russia) the reason for alliance members to support Nato has been increasingly called into question.

In the early 1990s the alliance grappled with redefining its mission. New threats were postulated to sustain it. In 1993 senior officers testified in congressional executive session that Nato's continued relevance (and existence) depended on taking action in Bosnia: that Nato's post-Cold War role is to respond to "out of area" conflicts. If Nato could not effectively respond to a conflict on an adjacent border its credibility would be fatally jeopardised.

Further, they testifed that if Nato did enter Bosnia it must succeed. The alliance that defeated the USSR must not be seen as impotent to future aggressors. Humanitarian rationale for entry in 1993-94 was an important but subordinate priority.

US participation in Bosnia can therefore be directly linked to an American desire to sustain Nato and retain an American leadership role in Europe. Our policy is to save Nato. Our strategy is to have Nato do "something constructive" in the Balkans to display the relevance of the alliance. In a perverse expression of bureaucratic self-preservation US diplomats coerced a truce in Dayton, Ohio, recently to effect this outcome.

Will the US Balkans initiative prove, once again, the unnecessary entanglement caused by artificially sustained alliances? Only time will tell.

Sincerely,
W. L. NELSON
(Joint Staff adviser to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, 1990-94),
12112 NE 162nd Place,
Bothell, Washington 98011.
December 22.

Nato involvement

From Mr George Tintor

Sir, Your Defence Correspondent suggests (report, December 21) that Nato airpower helped to end the war in Bosnia. In fact the Nato bombing campaign, directed by Lieutenant-General Rupert Smith, merely intensified the fighting.

By destroying Serb command and control facilities the airstrikes enabled Croat and Muslim forces to conquer a large swath of Serb-inhabited territory, driving over 100,000 Serbs from their homes. (According to 1991 census data, six of the seven "liberated" districts had Serbs comprising 77 per cent to 97 per cent of the prewar population.) The fighting stopped only when the US put pressure on the Croats and Muslims to end their offensive.

Yours sincerely,
GEORGE TINTOR,
122 Leadenhall Street, EC3.
December 21.

Law on self-defence

From Mr Leon M. Curtis

Sir, Dr Gary Slapper ("Vigilante or victim?", Law, December 12) reviews the legal and social or ethical issues raised by some recent cases in which forceful defence has been used against burglars. He refers to the Court of Appeal's rationale in *Revill v Newberry* as being "partly based upon the notion that our society will not condone the personal, subjective determination of what 'criminals' deserve".

His interesting survey leaves out an important social issue. The courts are the right place for the determination of what criminals deserve, but burglars commonly prey on society for years without ever appearing in court, because they are rarely apprehended.

Forceful defence resulting in significant injury to the burglar not only defends the property being attacked: it can also result in the burglar being apprehended (as in the cases referred to). The courts are thereby enabled to deal with him.

This is a social justification which all concerned — Government, Law Commission, CPS and courts — ought to take into account.

Yours faithfully,
LEON M. CURTIS,
Delamere,
7A Brookfield Road, Lymm, Cheshire.
December 12.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Balloting the Bar about complaints

From the Treasurer of the Bar Council

Sir, You have recently published a number of letters (December 1, 12, 18) about the current ballot of the Bar on its complaints procedures, questioning why the whole practising Bar, and not simply barristers in independent practice, are entitled to vote.

The Bar's constitution makes detailed provisions about balloting, but starts from the general proposition that any ballot should relate to the whole Bar, unless the issues specifically relate only to a particular section. Machinery is provided to enable a decision to restrict the ballot to a section. That machinery was not invoked at last month's extraordinary general meeting.

The subject matter of the resolutions also concerns barristers practising in employment. It is foreseeable, for instance, that an employed barrister who is in trouble with his employer might also find himself before the disciplinary machinery of the Bar Council. Accordingly, we left undisturbed the decision to leave the ballot to the wider constituency.

I should perhaps add that the chief executive of the Bar Council and I have been anxious throughout to ensure scrupulous fairness in the administration of the ballot, and we will continue to do so. We have invited the Electoral Reform Society to oversee the count.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL BLAIR,
Treasurer,
The General Council of the Bar,
3 Bedford Row, WC1.
December 22.

From Mr Ronald Thwaites, QC

Sir, Mr Andrew Twigger, fresh from pupillage, casts doubts on how representative my views are (letter, December 18). I would remind him that at the extraordinary general meeting of the Bar on November 21 my resolution against the introduction of a new complaints procedure was carried by 188 votes to 104.

Mr Neil Addison, who believes that my views "ignore the fact that the Bar is by law one profession" (letter, December 18), should recognise that the interests of employed barristers are simply not compatible with those of most of the 8,500 practising barristers. We are not a "group": we *are* the profession.

Yours faithfully,
RONALD THWAITES,
10 King's Bench Walk, Temple, EC4.
December 22.

Flight safety

From the General Secretary of the British Air Line Pilots Association

Sir, Balpa's campaign about proposed flight-crew working hours ("Balpa cries Wolf", Travel News, December 14) is not about pay and conditions. It is about crew fatigue and our concern to maintain high standards of safety and service to the customer.

Over the past thirty years we have learnt a lot about flight-crew fatigue. Now the Joint Aviation Authorities — individuals from various national civil aviation authorities who are unelected and accountable only to themselves — are about to abandon all this experience and introduce a new, more liberal, harmonised regime. In our view this will increase fatigue and reduce the safety margin. We have nothing against the principle, only the content, which is levelling standards down rather than up.

For the past three years, far from being "hysterical", we have been trying constructively to influence the outcome. All to no avail. We have been ignored; this is why we have sought through our advertising campaign to draw the attention of a wider audience to this important issue.

It is still not too late to recognise the folly that is about to be enacted and change course. We are not "playing the safety card": our flight crews have safety as their first concern every working day of their lives.

Yours faithfully,
CHRIS DARKE,
General Secretary,
BALPA,
81 New Road, Harlington,
Hayes, Middlesex.
December 15.

Schools policy

From Councillor Graham Lane

Sir, Your editorial, "John and Gill" (December 18), rightly condemns the Prime Minister's obsession with promoting the unpopular grant-maintained policy at any price. Your reference to "town hall control" is misleading, however. Under local management schools maintained by local authorities have full control of their budgets and appoint their own staff. Governing bodies take the key decisions for each school.

Schools rely on public money, however, and they must be accountable for its use. The choice is whether that accountability is expressed through local or central government. Parents and governors have shown overwhelmingly that they prefer the local option.

This may be partly because people, according to many opinion polls, trust their local council more than the Government. It also acknowledges that arrangements for admission to schools, raising standards for all pupils, and many other strategic issues are best negotiated across a larger area than the catchment of an individual school. Local education authorities (LEAs) have shown themselves best placed to do this in a way that is sensitive to local needs.

The model of isolated individual schools beholden to the remote, appointed bureaucracy of the Funding Agency for Schools has become increasingly unattractive. You are therefore right to judge that compulsion is wrong; but we do not believe that "the politics of conviction" will succeed in reviving opting-out. Local management of schools within a framework of responsive LEAs is the preferred option of the vast majority of governors, parents and education professionals.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM LANE
(Chair, Education Committee),
Association of Metropolitan Authorities,
35 Great Smith Street, SW1.
December 18.

Navy cuts

From Mr L. Nicholson

Sir, I fully endorse the comments of Mr C. J. A. Cope (letter, December 19) concerning the shortage of ships in the Royal Navy.

HMS Brazen visited Trieste in early November and her overall appearance could only be described as immaculate. It was therefore surprising to learn from a crew member that she is to be sold to Brazil.

My 1987 edition of *Jane's Fighting Ships* describes *HMS Brazen* as having been commissioned in July 1982 at an approximate cost of £100,000,000. So why the need to sell her after only 13 years' service? My *Jane's* also lists former Royal Navy ships sold to other countries, still in commission after many years' service, some of Second World War vintage. Even the Royal Yacht *Britannia* has given over 40 years of service.

What the Government fails to appreciate is that the United Kingdom is, and always has been, a seafaring nation demanding a strong Navy. Peace can never be guaranteed, and the loss of shipbuilding skills could never be replaced. What will the Government do in times of strife? Buy from Korea?

Yours faithfully,
L. NICHOLSON,
Piazzale di Giarizzole 11,
Trieste, Italy.
December 22.

From Mr Robert H. Brown

Sir, C. J. A. Cope should not despair. The Royal Navy may not have enough ships but at least the new MoD equipment procurement executive base covering 98 acres near Bristol employing a slimmed-down workforce of 4,300 (report, December 18) will, I am sure, soon do something to remedy the deficiency.

If not, then in any future conflict we could always exchange the Isle of Wight for 50 aged destroyers from the US Navy.

Yours faithfully,
R. H. BROWN,
Falcon House, Cockayne Hatley,
Sandy, Bedfordshire.
December 19.

In tune

From Mr Jasper Parrott

Sir, Richard Morrison ("So you want to run an orchestra?", December 16) assumes that by its behaviour towards my client Vladimir Ashkenazy last year the RPO made an enemy of me. This is not so.

I have worked closely with this fine orchestra for over 25 years and under a number of managerial regimes, including the last ill-starred one. I have always tried to be a supportive and constructive partner and I believe that I am perceived to be a friend by the majority of its members. I certainly consider myself as such.

Yours faithfully,
JASPER PARROTT,
Harrison/Parrott Limited,
12 Penzance Place, W11.
December 20.

Caring by numbers

From Mr Ted Bell

Sir, The story related by Mr Simon A. May (letter, December 18) of Noël Coward's letter to Aircraftman Shaw shows that, however much knowledge the Master acquired of the Senior Service, he was ignorant of one aspect of the junior service (and, I believe, others).

An airman would be known by his "name and last three (digits)"; his first three (by my time, first four) would be shared with too many of his intake to provide sufficient identification.

Yours faithfully,
TED BELL,
(1597677 Bell, H.E.),
Downend,
74b Bath Road,
Reading, Berkshire.
December 20.

Righting wrongs of blood victims

From Mr Alf Morris, MP for Manchester, Wythenshawe (Labour)

Sir, There are some wrongs we ought not to have to campaign to put right. One of the most glaring is the unmerited extra suffering inflicted on people with haemophilia who were infected with hepatitis C by contaminated NHS blood products.

They were prescribed to correct the severe bleeding people with haemophilia endure.

Hepatitis C attacks the liver and is potentially life-threatening. Current medical opinion is that up to 80 per cent of those infected, through no fault of their own, will develop chronic liver disease. Between 10 per cent and 20 per cent will suffer cirrhosis of the liver. Others will contract liver cancer.

The scandal dates back to before 1986, when heat treatment was introduced to end the contamination of NHS blood products. But by then 3,100 people with haemophilia were infected and now have hepatitis C. Over 50 have died and the death rate is accelerating.

The damaging impact on the lives of those infected but not yet seriously ill is documented by recent case studies from the Haemophilia Society. They detail fears of becoming unable to support their dependants; falling incomes as ability to work is restricted; substantially increased living costs; prohibitively expensive life-insurance premiums, and stress and anxiety pushing individuals and families to breaking point.

Yet the Government refuses to relieve the extra medical, social and financial burdens on those who have cirrhosis and other life-threatening conditions.

It took many years of hard campaigning to win financial help for people with haemophilia who were infected with HIV by contaminated blood transfusions from the NHS, hundreds of whom have since died of Aids. We won financial help for the victims then because our case was unanswerable. But so is the virtually identical case of those infected by the NHS with hepatitis C.

An all-party motion I have tabled in the Commons, with the backing of 250 other MPs, calls upon the Government to recognise the extreme seriousness of the hepatitis C infection among the haemophilia community and to meet its moral responsibility to help.

It is the Government's bounden duty to alleviate this suffering. If it will not and the campaign has to go on, then go on it will for as long as it takes to let right be done.

Yours faithfully,
ALFRED MORRIS,
House of Commons.
December 23.

Out of Bethlehem

From Mrs Helen Davis

Sir, "And it happened in the days when the judges judged that there was a famine in the land and a man went from Bethlehem in Judah to sojourn in the fields of Moab . . . " So begins the Book of Ruth, the story of the Moabite convert who became the great-grandmother of King David and therefore the progenitor of the Messiah. Bethlehem had a deep religious significance for Jews long before it became a focal point of Christianity.

Some 3,000 years later the Israelis have withdrawn from Bethlehem (report and leading article, December 22) to make way for Palestinian self-rule. If there is another example in history of a nation that enjoys absolute military superiority withdrawing voluntarily from its own holy places in the name of peace and reconciliation, I do not know of it.

Yours etc,
HELEN DAVIS (Director),
Britain Israel Public Affairs Centre,
21-22 Great Sutton Street, EC1.
December 22.

Strange brew

From Mr Henry Robinson

Sir, Tony Benn's recipe for tea (Diary, today) is absurd. Milk should not be added until the tea bag has been removed.

I suspect that Mr Benn may also eat his boiled eggs from the wrong end.

Yours truly,
HENRY ROBINSON,
27 Redwing Road,
Clanfield, Hampshire.
December 19.

Gift horses

From Mr Simon J. A. Powis

Sir, The spirit of Christmas is no longer to be found only in fine sentiments or bottles but also in presents by proxy. I have in the past few days been informed that as Christmas presents to me a tree has been planted in an area of endangered ecology and a layette provided for a baby born in grim circumstances in Bosnia.

In order to oversee the activities of the organisations offering such "gifts" perhaps the Office of Fair Trading should appoint watchdogs. Oft in Danger? Oft in Woe?

Yours faithfully,
SIMON POWIS,
Abington Hill,
504 Wellingborough Road,
Northampton.
December 24.

SOCIAL NEWS

Birthdays Today

Miss Anne Armstrong, American diplomat, 68; Viscount Astor, 44; Sir Gordon Brunton, former president, International Thomson Organisation, 74; Captain N.F. Crump, racehorse trainer, 85; Mr Gerard Depardieu, actor, 47; Lord Griffiths of Fforestfach, 54; Air Chief Marshal Sir Derek Hodgkinson, 78

Viscount Knutsford, 69; Miss Pat Moss, former rally driver, 61; Professor D.H. Northcote, former Master, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, 74; Sir William Purves, banker, 64; Professor B.R. Rees, former Principal, St David's University College, Lampeter, 76; Sir Norman Reid, former director, Tate Gallery, 80; Dr E.C. Salthouse, Master, University College, Durham, 60; Lord Sterling of Plaistow, 61; Miss Janet Street-Porter, broadcaster, 49; Miss Polly Toynbee, journalist and broadcaster, 49; the Right Rev A.M.A. Turnbull, Bishop of Durham, 60; Brigadier Dame Mary Tyrwhitt, former director, WRAC, 92.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C.R.P. Bigham and Miss C.J. Worthington
The engagement is announced between Charles, eldest son of the Hon David and Mrs Bigham, of Pulborough, West Sussex, and Claire, daughter of Colonel and Mrs John Worthington, of Wiveliscombe, Somerset.

Mr M.P. Trowbridge and Miss L. Oxley
The engagement is announced between Martin Peter, younger son of Rear-Admiral Sir Richard and Lady Trowbridge, of Old Idsworth, Hampshire, and Louise Claire, only daughter of the late Mr Cyril Oxley and of Mrs Heather Oxley, of Harrogate, North Yorkshire.

Marriage

Rear-Admiral C.C.H. Dunlop and Commandant Elizabeth Craig-McFeely, WRNS
The marriage of Rear-Admiral Colin Dunlop and Commandant Liz Craig-McFeely, took place, quietly, at Buckfast Abbey on December 15, 1995.

Professor Brian Heap, FRS, above, the endocrine physiologist and former Director of the Babraham Institute, has been elected to the Mastership of St Edmund's College, Cambridge. He will take up office on October 1, 1996, on the retirement of the present Master, Mr Richard Laws, FRS.

Lord McNally

The life barony conferred upon Mr Tom McNally has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baron McNally, of Blackpool in the County of Lancashire.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Johannes Kepler, astronomer, Weil der Stadt, Germany, 1571; Louis Pasteur, chemist and bacteriologist, Dôle, France, 1822.

DEATHS: George Barrington, pickpocket and writer, Parramatta, New South Wales, 1804; William Jay, dissenting minister, Bath, 1853; William Armstrong, Baron Armstrong, inventor, Northumberland, 1900; William Archer, journalist and dramatic critic, London, 1924; Sergy Yesenin, poet, Leningrad, 1925; Max Beckmann, Expressionist painter, New York, 1950; Lester Pearson, Prime Minister of Canada 1963-68, Nobel Peace laureate 1957, Ottawa, 1972; Houari Boumedienne, President of Algeria 1965-78, Algiers, 1978; Hoagy Carmichael, pianist and composer, Palm Springs, California, 1981.

Charles Darwin set sail in *HMS Beagle* from Plymouth on his voyage of scientific discovery, 1831.

The first performance of J.M. Barrie's *Peter Pan* took place at the Duke of York's Theatre, London, 1904.

The International Monetary Fund was established, Washington, 1945.

The Sex Discrimination and Equal Pay Acts came into effect in Britain, 1975.

MARTIN BEDDALL

Michael Twomey, head waiter in the Palm Court at the Ritz, got his first job at the hotel 50 years ago today, working the luggage lift

Still putting on the style after 50 years at the Ritz

BY JOHN YOUNG

Today, a twinkling, gently spoken and clearly much loved grandfather from Co Cork will celebrate 50 years of ministering to the rich, the titled, the famous and the publicity-hungry at the Ritz Hotel in Piccadilly.

Michael Twomey, the long-time head waiter in the hotel's Palm Court, was just 16 when he arrived in England from his native Ireland soon after the end of the Second World War. His father was dead and his mother had already emigrated to work at the Royal Over-Seas League.

At that time Irish citizens needed work permits and he was told that the only job available was on a smallholding in Andover, Hampshire. But his mother had other ideas, wrote to the Ritz and rather to their surprise, obtained an interview with the assistant manager. "I was able to get references from two ladies in Ireland where I used to help with the harvest," he recalls. "They were quite amazed to get a letter from the Ritz."

His first job was working the luggage lift, followed by promotion to the senior staff dining room, where his task was to wait on formidable beings like the head waiter, head porter and head housekeeper. When in 1948, he was asked to join the staff of the Palm Court, he was shaking so much that his first customer, a Commander Bristow, took one look at him and said 'You must have had one hell of a night last night'.

One of the regulars in those days was the late Aga Khan, the present Aga's grandfather, who used to arrive with a staff of 26, including his own cooks to prepare his food. But for the public at large, rationing was still the order of the day, and the Ritz had to do its best to disguise such abominations as powdered eggs and whale steaks.

"There was a limit on the price of a meal, 7s 6d, (37½p) for lunch and 3s 9d for tea with watercress sandwiches," Mr Twomey recalls. "A lot of clients had come back from the war and were trying to pick up the threads of their lives and to recreate the good times. But it was a really rather sad period." Most of the clientele were elderly and the hotel had a sort of dowager image.

"In those days there were only really four grand hotels in London, the Savoy, Claridges, the Dorchester and the Ritz. Our management thought they would like to expand and wrote to Lord Wimborne who lived at Wimborne House next door to ask if he would be interested in selling his property.

"He wrote back saying thank you, that he had no interest in selling but, if the Ritz was interested in selling up, he would like to extend his garden."

Another regular visitor was Prince Ali Khan, the Aga's playboy son. On at least one occasion he arrived with his most famous girlfriend, Rita Hayworth, and the hotel staff had to usher them out into the garden and then into Green Park to escape the attentions of the press.

Mr Twomey remembers the 1953 Coronation procession down Piccadilly, watched from their hotel by among others Madame Ritz, the 92-year-old widow of the hotel's founder. Other frequent guests included Evelyn Waugh who held literary court with Randolph Churchill, Cyril Connolly and Peter Quennell, making frequent use of his notorious ear trumpet.

Nubar Gulbenkian, the fabulously rich entrepreneur, lived at the hotel until his wife took him away because, she alleged, he was eating too much and getting too fat. Mr Twomey remembers that he had a specially adapted London taxi fitted with a Rolls-Royce engine and a roof that could be raised to accommodate his top hat. Gulbenkian said he had been told that a London taxi could turn on a sixpence, "whatever that might be".

One of Mr Twomey's favourite guests has always been Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother who lunches at the hotel two or three times a year, the most recent occasion being the day before she went to hospital for her hip operation. "Everyone stands up and claps when she walks down the gallery," he says.

Among a multitude of showbiz stars he recalls Judy Garland and Ginger Rogers in particular for the aura they possessed and for their theatrical entrances into the Palm Court. Frank Sinatra chose another method of engaging public attention by arriving with a mob of henchmen in a fleet of limousines, brakes squealing and doors slamming, entering the hotel to drink a single glass of champagne, and leaving with the same commotion.

The pop stars of the 1970s and 1980s led by the likes of the Beatles and David Bowie had less style. To allow them to conform with the dress code, a supply of ties and jackets was kept in the cloakroom. "I think the class situation has changed in that more people from different walks of life can now come to the Ritz without feeling uncomfortable," Mr Twomey says. "But there is less style than there used to be.

"I think most people have lost the art of living and have sacrificed it for material prosperity." He partly blames the influence of the United States. "These power breakfasts I don't approve of at all."

Fossil finds reopen debate on early man

BY NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE recent discovery of a fossil hominid in central China, reported to be 1.9 million years old, has refocused attention on discoveries made by a British team in Pakistan more than a decade ago. Stone tools found near Islamabad, the capital, were dated to more than two million years ago, but, because there was no other equally early material from Asia, they have been overlooked.

Even when the new Chinese discovery, from Longgupo Cave near the Yangtze River in Sichuan province, was announced in *Nature* in mid-November, the ensuing discussion ignored the Pakistan material, first reported in *The Times* (June 17 and July 23, 1987).

The finds, from Riwat on the Soan River, included a stone tool made by removing flakes from at least three different directions, something difficult to achieve by anything other than systematic human activity.

The Riwat tool, which is comparable to Oldowan tools of similar age from East Africa, has been published in the scientific literature, and its date of close to 2.5 million years is based on established geoarchaeological techniques. Several other deliberately-made stone flakes from Riwat show that the handaxe is not an isolated find.

The new Chinese discovery "confirms exactly what we have been arguing for the past eight years," Dr Robin Dennell, of Sheffield University, said. "On the other hand, we are upset that this evidence has been ignored by the palaeoanthropologists: it is galling when *Nature* publishes a map that shows Dmanisi in Georgia and Ubeidiya in Israel, and nothing else all the way to China. Yet the Pakistan evidence is halfway in between and in the same time-range."

Earlier this year, Dr Dennell published a paper in the journal *Cranium* suggesting "that *Homo erectus* evolved in Asia and then migrated into Africa 1.5 million years ago, and was therefore not descended from *Homo habilis* and its African contemporaries".

Based on the Riwat finds, this heterodox view, which, Dr Dennell says, makes it "unlikely that Africa contains the whole of the 'Cradle of Mankind' or the full account of our earliest origins" is now receiving support from Longgupo Cave.

Although the current consensus is that humanity's ancestors lived only in Africa until *Homo erectus* broke out into Asia some time before a million years ago, the latter continent, which was the focus of research until the Second World War, may still have some surprises for us.

Inns of Court awards

Lincoln's Inn

Pre-pupillage awards 1995-96
Scholarships
Mansfield: P Hamilton, J Goldring, D Hall.
Sunley: C Holland, K Lee, L Davidson.
Wolfson: C Loweth, C Samuels, D Scorey.
Tancred Studentship: J Arnold.
Thomas More Bursaries: N Baylis, J Bignall, D Charles, C Comonte, A Dawar, C Downes, A Drane, C Hare, S Jones, S Knights, J Law, S Margree, A Markham, G Pryce, E Rowntree, C Speck, A Stone, A Thornton, S Tozer, E Welch, M Williams, P Zaman.

CPE awards 1995-96
Bonham-Carter, E Dalton, M Haque, S Hennessy, S Hewitt, R Husain-Naviatti, S Kerr, L Mably, S Phipps, D Walker, R Young.

Middle Temple

Scholars - Vocational Course 1995-96
Queen Mother's Fund Scholarships: D Beard, Churchill, Cambridge; B Collins, Queens', Cambridge; C Cunningham, Downing, Cambridge; M Fitz-Taylor, St Hugh's, Oxford, City U; K Ghose, Somerville, Oxford; J Killick, Clare, Cambridge, Edinburgh; A Kinnier, Sidney Sussex, Cambridge; J Maugham, Durham; J Page, Queen Mary & Westfield, London, City; J Roussak, City; E Scott-Williams, Westminster; M Sethi, Wadham, Oxford; S Stephenson, London Guildhall; N Toms, Westminster, Wolfson, Cambridge; G Tranter, Wolfson, Cambridge, City.
Diplock Scholarships:
A Burt, Durham, City; G Cammerman, Fitzwilliam, Cambridge, Coll of Law; G Compton, King's, Cambridge, City; C Davis, Sussex, Coll of Law; D Friedman, Wadham, Oxford, Coll of Law; K Hogg, Fitzwilliam, Cambridge, Westminster; G McBride, Pembroke, Cambridge, City; J Redpath, University Coll, London, City; N Rudolf, Warwick; M Sefton, Trinity, Cambridge, City; R Temminck, Trinity, Cambridge; M Walsh, Emmanuel, Cambridge, City.
Harmsworth Scholarships: E Banton, Southbank; R Case, Magdalene, Cambridge; K Charles, Essex; S Garfield, Westminster; J Hanham, Pembroke, Oxford, City; Y Holiday, Lucy Cavendish, Cambridge; A Mungi, Leeds; D Pliener, UMIST, City; S Prentis, Peterhouse, Cambridge, City; J Roberts, Hull, Sheffield; A Schofield, Lincoln, Oxford; L Townley, Birmingham; T Treuherz, Southampton, Manchester Metropolitan.
Astbury Scholarships
A Abbon, Conv & Caius, Cambridge; C Bradley, Magdalene, Cambridge; C Cheesman, Oriel, Oxford, City; S Crown, Lincoln, Oxford; J Ewins, New, Oxford; K Ganchi, Lancaster; E Hogan, Queen's, Oxford, City; T Kevan, Magdalene, Cambridge; K Sawyer, Keble, Oxford, Westminster; S Tucker, Churchill, Cambridge; T Vanhegan, St Hugh's, Oxford.
Jules Thorn Scholarships:
P Anjamshoaa, University Coll, London; M Burrough, Downing, Cambridge; C Eades, Sussex; C Foot, St Andrews, Coll of Law; R Hussein, Central Lancs; E O'Neill, Trinity, Dublin; J Rashid, Liverpool.
Benefactors Scholarships:
A Ahmad, LSE; S Buckingham, Hertford, Oxford; S Clarke, Liverpool; W Cook, Lucy Cavendish, Cambridge; N Fox, University Coll, London; L Frazer, Newnham, Cambridge; I Gilmore, Trinity, Oxford, Leeds Metrop; H Humpage, Birmingham; L Lane, Newnham, Cambridge, Euro Univ Inst, Florence; M McLean, Kent; S Jackson, De Montford, King's Coll, London; W Purcell, York, Leeds; R Samuel, Edinburgh, City; R Silverbeck, Newcastle, Coll of Law; M Smith, St John's, Oxford, City; M Walsh, Goldsmith's, London, City; G Wilson, University C, London, City; J Wykes, R Holloway & Bedford, Southbank.
CPE Scholarships 1995
Queen Mother's Fund Scholarships: J Hough, St Hugh's, Oxford; J Reed, Peterhouse, Cambridge; C Young, Leeds.
Diplock Scholarships: S K Singh, Warwick; L McLynn, Bristol.
Harmsworth Scholarship: A Gardner, Leeds.
Astbury Scholarships: T Hinchliffe, Brasenose, Oxford; L McCafferty, Lincoln, Oxford.
Jules Thorn Scholarships: C Sparrow, St Andrews, N Oakeshott, Wadham, Oxford.
Benefactors Scholarships: A Baptiste, Essex; S O'Sullivan, Exeter, Oxford.

Latest wills

Sir Philip Jack **Oppenheimer**, of Cheveley, Newmarket, Suffolk, Chairman of the Diamond Trading Company since 1975 and owner of the Hascombe Stud where he bred many successful fillies, including his greatest triumph, On the House, the 33-1 winner of the 1,000 Guineas in 1982, a member of the Jockey Club, and in 1972 he arranged for De Beers to sponsor the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes at Ascot, left estate valued at £7,190,550 net.
He left £120,000 to the Philip Oppenheimer (Charitable) Foundation.

Mrs Dorothy Winifred May **Purchase**, of Chadlington, Oxfordshire, left estate valued at £3,083,102 net.

Miss Freda Mary Staniforth **Gate**, of Uckfield, East Sussex, left estate valued at £631,090 net.
She left £115,500 and effects to personal legatees, and the residue equally between the Salvation Army, the Friends of the Lake District, East Sussex Association for the Blind, Shelter, Crisis, the Rainbow Trust, Royal School for Deaf Children, Margate, Marie Curie Cancer Care, the Motor Neurone Disease Association and VSO.

Mr Kenneth Forbes **Malcolmson**, of Monmouth, Gwent, Precentor and Director of Music at Eton 1956-71, left estate valued at £374,541 net.
He left £10,000 to Monmouth School to found music scholarships.

Mr Michael Montague **Jones**, of Abingdon, Oxfordshire, Bursar of Radley College 1974-91, left estate valued at £337,190 net.

Other estates include (net before tax):

Mr Raymond Edwin **Barnes**, of Monken Hadley, Hertfordshire £622,881

Mr Brian James **Dale**, of Ludlow, Salop £847,156

Mr Vernon Adolphus Job **Helbing**, of Parkgate, Cheshire, retired architect £665,018

Mrs Beatrice **Howard**, of London NW8 ..... £2,194,301

Mr Peter **Jenkin-Jones**, of Nottingham £1,073,664

Audrey Victoria **Knowles**, of Gower, West Glamorgan £614,971

Miss Kathleen Mary Agnes **Pennefather**, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire £627,895

Mrs Edith Margaret **Sparke**, of Portscatho, Cornwall £976,251

Mrs Kate **Stephens**, of St Annes on Sea, Lancashire £754,503

Sylvia **Throndsen**, of Chislehurst, Kent £1,201,233

Mr Roger Stephen **Wakeman**, of Bristol, Avon £620,020

Mrs Elizabeth Betty **Williams**, of Chicheester, West Sussex £627,042

Mrs Eila Irene Molly **Workman**, of Bristol, Avon £780,072

University news

Reading
Research grants and contracts include:
Dr P.E. Kerswill (Linguistic Science), £134,320 from the Economic and Social Research Council — the role of adolescents in dialect levelling.
Professor R. Burch (Chemistry), £149,645 from the EPSRC — steady state isotopic transient kinetic analysis of real catalysts.
Professor R. Burch and Dr N.S. Isaacs (Chemistry), £163,778 from the EPSRC — clean organic synthesis using catalysis in supercritical fluids.
Dr T.M. Hardman (Chemistry), £111,570 from EPSRC — the effect of solid particles on emulsion stability.
Professor C.R. Chaplin and Dr L.M.L. Ridge (Engineering), £66,513 from the EPSRC — rope degradation and fatigue behaviour.
Professor G. Jeronimidis (Engineering), £82,550 from the EPSRC — design of integral strain sensors in composite laminates based on biomimetics of insects sense organs.
Professor M.J. Breheny and Professor I. Gordon (Geography), £60,521 from the EPSRC — densities in the sustainable city.
Professor D.C. Bassett, £128,455 from the EPSRC — quantized molecular folding, spherulite growth and lamellar microstructure in monodisperse paraffins.
Professor J.W. Almond and Dr D. Evans (School of Animal and Microbial Sciences), £1,093,890 from the Medical Research Council — the molecular cell biology and pathogenesis of human picornaviruses.
Dr W.S. Barclay (School of Animal and Microbial Sciences), £136,636 from the MRC — an analysis of the Cis-acting signals of influenza B virus RNAs.
Dr J.A. McKeating (School of Animal and Microbial Sciences) and Dr C.J. Dean (ICRF), £156,689 from the MRC — the functional significance of VIV2 sequence variation in the cascade of events leading to HIV-1 envelope-cell fusion.
Dr E.A. Gaffan (Psychology), £125,336 from the MRC — neural basis of visuo-spatial and episodic memory in the rat.
Dr A. Culham (Botany), £101,639 from the Natural Environment Research Council — origins and relationships of pelargonium with emphasis on the African/Australian divide.
Dr G. Marston (Chemistry), £92,177 from the NERC — studies of gas-phase reactions of ozone with alkenes.
Mr R. Hanneman (Cybernetics), £135,560 from the NERC — research development and supply of infrared filters for the high resolution dynamics limb sounder (HIRDLS).
Professor R.J. Gurney (NCTIS-Geography), £276,125 from the NERC — NERC Unit for Thematic Information Systems at the University of Reading.
Professor R.J. Gurney (ESSC-Geography) £140,056 from the NERC — cloud structures: observations and representation in weather forecasting and climate models (ROPA).
Dr A. Parker and Dr J. Rae (Postgraduate Research Institute for Sedimentology), £62,521 from the NERC — extent and mechanisms of uptake of pesticides by aquifer sediments (ROPA).
Dr R.W.A. Park (School of Animal and Microbial Sciences), £159,631 from the Department of Health — assessment of the degree of heat treatment necessary to destroy E Coli 0157.
Dr S.A. Booth (Economics), Dr J.A. Ogden and Professor K.D. Baker (Computer Science), £147,280 from the DTI — Teaching Company Scheme.
Professor G.D. Sullivan (Computer Science) and Dr R. Mitchell (Cybernetics), £161,880 from the DTI — Teaching Company Scheme.
Dr P. John (Agricultural Botany), £93,671 from the Leverhulme Trust — the scientific basis of indigo production from woad.
Professor C. Chaplin (Engineering) and Professor M.G. Fulford (Archaeology), £85,683 from the Leverhulme Trust — the role of the enclosed hearth in the processing of steel in antiquity.
Professor K.A. Browning (Meteorology), £168,000 from The Meteorological Office — provision of a support post for the unified model at the JCMM.
Dr J.M. Slingo and Professor A. O'Neill (Meteorology), £230,072 from The Meteorological Office — support for use of the unified model by UGAMP.
Professor P.D.S. Caligari (Agricultural Botany), £477,105 from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food — application of gene technology and chromosome visualisation for improved UK adaptability and exploration of white lupin.
Dr S.P. Carruthers (Centre for Agricultural Strategy), £192,754 from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food — cost-benefit assessment, including life-cycle analysis of oils produced from UK-grown crops compared with mineral oils.
Mr E. Williams (CALS), £30,090 from the ODA — to monitor the impact of a class library project upon reading standards in Malawi.
Dr J.P. Harris (Psychology), £81,672 from the Parkinsons' Disease Society — visual influences in the motor disorders of Parkinson's Disease.

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Can you not see that as long as there is jealousy and strife among you, you are unspiritual, living on the purely human level.
1 Corinthians 3 : 3 (REB)

MARRIAGES

JACKSON – KEER On December 20th 1995 in St Albans John Patrick Jackson to Margaret Eleanor Keer.

DEATHS

BALCHIN - On December 21st, peacefully at Oxendon House, Great Oxendon, Doris Balchin, aged 96 years, widow of Sidney Maurice, greatly loved mother of John and Gilbert, and loving grandmother of Anna, Charles, Hugh, Timothy and Zoe. Cremation at the Crematorium, Rothwell Road, Kettering, at 2.30pm on Tuesday January 2nd 1996. Family flowers only, donations, if desired, to Kettering General Hospital (General Endowment Fund). All enquiries to J Stamp & Sons, The Chestnuts, Kettering Road, Market Harborough. Tel: (01858) 462524.

CUTLER - On 17th December 1995 peacefully Winifred Alice aged 87 of Seaford, widow of Edward Alfred Cutler. Enquiries c/o Seaford & Newhaven Funeral Service, tel: (01323) 893899.

DEATHS

GOODHART - Lt. Col. Mark Henry, aged 64 on 19th December. Private family funeral. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at 2.30pm on 24th January at St Michael's Garrison Church, Tidworth. No flowers please. Donations, if wished, to RNLI, c/o LN. Newman Ltd., (01722) 413136.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

BARBOUR - Robert Warren 27/12/94. Sadly missed. Loved and remembered by your family always.

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EDDIE: Many happy returns. I love you. I love you. I love you. Keelie xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

COURT AND SOCIAL PAGE

OVER THE NEW YEAR PERIOD THE FOLLOWING DEADLINES WILL APPLY:

Notices to appear on Thursday, December 28th should be received in writing by noon on Wednesday, December 27th. Notices to appear on Friday, December 29, should be received in writing by 5pm on Wednesday, December 27.

Notices to appear on Saturday, December 30; Monday, January 1; Tuesday, January 2 should be received in writing by 12 noon on Thursday, December 28.

ALL NOTICES ARE ACCEPTED SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

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OBITUARIES

DEAN MARTIN

Dean Martin, Hollywood singer, comedian and actor, died on Christmas Day aged 78. He was born on June 17, 1917.

LIFE and art seemed inextricably tangled in Dean Martin. At times it seemed hard to tell where the acting ended and the true personality began. A founder member and second-in-command of Frank Sinatra's notorious "Rat Pack" — an offshoot of the clan originally organised by Humphrey Bogart — Martin pursued a lifestyle that seemed to follow him onto the screen, and off again.

Some of his behaviour, such as his reputation for heavy drinking, was in measure at least a self-fostered myth. Other aspects of it were not. At the height of his popularity the routine dazzle of a Dean Martin show relied partly on the velvety singing voice, partly on repartee, but mostly on his stage persona. His mordant wit, elaborately interlaced with obscenities and obtusely hip in-jokes, hooked the audiences of his era like an addictive drug.

But the impoverished immigrant's dream of success without tears, of gambling, drinking and womanising, eventually turned sour for Martin. His life, as a critic once put it, became "one long grubby joke without a worthwhile punchline", and his latter years were passed in an alcoholic haze. He was seemingly intent on drinking himself to death, if only to end the pain of a series of tragedies which marred his personal life: the loss of a son in a flying accident, the break-up of his three marriages, and the death of his close friend Sammy Davis, Jr.

Martin will be remembered in his last years as an emaciated shadow of his former self, draped in a cheap grey nylon windcheater as he drank himself into oblivion in a Beverly Hills restaurant while his old songs played in the background, reminding him of his glory days.

Although his doctors warned him his liver was diseased he no longer cared. "I'm just looking forward to seeing my son in heaven," he said. "What the hell difference does it make if I drink now? I'll go with a glass in my hand."

Born in the tough steel town of Steubenville, Ohio, Martin began life as Dino Paul Crocetti, the son of Italian immigrants who had fled the harsh economic conditions of southern Italy in the dying years of the last century. Though Hollywood press agents were later to claim that he grew up in poverty, unable to speak English until well into boyhood, his family — once they got to America — were, in fact, modestly prosperous.

But Steubenville, the town they lived in, was riddled with gambling and vice. It was known in the years between the wars as "Little Chicago". After leaving school in the tenth grade ("because I thought I was smarter than the teacher") the young Martin delivered bootleg liquor for local gangs.

He also became an amateur prize fighter, earning ten dollars a bout, a broken nose, and a permanently split lip, before giving up fighting to work instead as a shoe-shine boy, a filling-station attendant and a manual labourer in a steelmill.

He then discovered that gambling paid better — at least if you were on the side of "the House". He went to work as a shop assistant in a cigar store which had gaming tables in the back room and soon became the croupier, earning $20 a day in salary and tips. It was to prove a useful talent during the early years of his singing career which had begun with impromptu performances in a local café.

As a singer, Martin had an enviably smooth baritone voice, and was blessed with handsome, dark looks and a confident delivery on stage that women in the audience seemed to appreciate. Unlike many handsome young singers, there was something robustly masculine about him that made men like him, too. He began to tour the country, keeping himself between singing engagements by working as a dealer in gambling houses.

The turning point in his career came in the summer of 1946 when Martin was given a six-week engagement at Skinny D'Amato's Club 500 in Atlantic City. He appeared on the same bill as a young comedian named Jerry Lewis, and the two struck up a partnership which was to last for the next ten years. With Martin playing the straight man to Lewis's madcap antics, the pair became an almost instant success. They moved to the Copacabana in New York as third act on the bill, and soon proved so popular with the audience that the owner, Jules Podell, gave them top billing and paid them $5,000 a week.

From New York, Martin and Lewis went to California where they were booked at Slapsie Maxie Rosenbloom's nightclub in Beverly Hills. With a bevy of prominent Hollywood producers present on opening night, the couple had hardly left the stage before they were signed to a long-term contract with Paramount Pictures.

There followed a series of 16 movies, beginning with *My Friend Irma* in 1949 and ending with *Hollywood or Bust* in 1956, all made to the same formula, Lewis clowning and Martin crooning and playing the suave straight man.

Financially the partnership was a huge success, and at one point their combined income was more than two million dollars a year. But emotionally the relationship between the two men showed signs of severe strain. They shared few outside interests and Martin began complaining of being shunted into the background, accusing Lewis of assuming the mantle of "a second Chaplin". The final break came in 1956 over a film script written by Lewis, *The Delicate Delinquent*, which called for Martin to play a uniformed policeman. Martin refused. Lewis threatened to get someone else and Martin snapped "Start looking". They never played together again.

At first it seemed that the break-up of the partnership might have brought Martin's Hollywood career to an abrupt end. His first solo film *Ten Thousand Bedrooms*, with Anna Maria Alberghetti, was a critical disaster. One reviewer described Martin as "a fellow with little humour and a modicum of charm".

The second turning point came in 1958 when Martin, appearing with Marlon Brando and Montgomery Clift in the screen version of Irwin Shaw's war novel *The Young Lions*, revealed an unsuspected talent as a dramatic actor. He went on to take a major role in *Rio Bravo* starring John Wayne, and then joined Frank Sinatra and Shirley MacLaine in the 1959 MGM production of James Jones's *Some Came Running*, in which he played a professional gambler and alcoholic dying of a chronic illness. Despite the grim nature of the role, Martin was later to say: "It was the happiest picture I've ever been in. A part like that will never come my way again."

Nor did it. Though Martin went on to appear in a variety of films, ranging from light comedies to westerns and heavy dramas, his reviews were never again as good. In many of them he shared the billing with other members of Sinatra's clan including Judy Garland, Tony Curtis, Peter Lawford and Sammy Davis, Jr.

In addition to his film-making Martin continued to play nightclubs, to make long-playing records and to appear on television. From 1965 he had his own star vehicle, *The Dean Martin Show*, which ran for eight years. Nor did he ever cut his early connections with the world of gambling, becoming part owner with Frank Sinatra of The Sands in Las Vegas, and owning a percentage of the Cal-Neva Lodge at Lake Tahoe. He also owned his own restaurant, Dino's, on Hollywood's Sunset Strip.

But Martin's drinking grew progressively worse and though audiences wept when he was brought on stage in his wheelchair and forgave him when he forgot his lyrics halfway through a song, they found he eventually just stopped turning up altogether. In 1988 Sinatra healed a long-standing rift and invited Dino back on tour, but he left halfway through and was never seen on stage again.

In his last years, dining alone at La Famiglia, his favourite restaurant in Beverly Hills, the women whose hearts had once swooned in cinemas and concert halls winced as he spat on the carpet.

Martin married three times: first to Elizabeth Ann MacDonald in 1940, whom he divorced nine years later; secondly to Jeanne Bieggers in 1949, whom he divorced in 1972; and a third time, in 1973, to Catherine Mae Hawn. They divorced in 1976. He spent his last years living not far from his second wife, who had always loved him, and to whom he remained close. He is survived by a son and three daughters from his first marriage and by a son and a daughter from his second.

CECILIA DICK

Cecilia Dick, lecturer in modern history at Oxford University, 1957-87, and Fellow and domestic bursar of Wolfson College, Oxford, 1966-94, died on November 25 aged 68. She was born on July 26, 1927.

CECILIA DICK played an important role in the development of Wolfson College in Oxford, which was to become the largest graduate college in the country.

A shy, private person, she came from a liberal family background, and was at times tryingly democratic in her views. Cecilia Rachel Buxton, as she was known before marriage, was the daughter of Denis Buxton, a London businessman, archaeologist, naturalist and historian of East Anglia. She came up to Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, to read modern history, took a first in 1949, and was elected to a senior scholarship that year and to a college lectureship in 1951.

From 1951 to 1952 she was at Radcliffe College, Cambridge, Massachusetts, after which she returned to Lady Margaret Hall and was a college lecturer in modern history, 1953-57, and a university lecturer, 1957-87. Her teaching was primarily concerned with the 19th century, and seminars on Sir Robert Peel first brought her into contact with Michael Brock, then a Fellow of Corpus Christi College.

By the mid-1960s, she found herself among an ever-growing number of tenured Oxford lecturers who were excluded from key aspects of college life, not being governing body members nor indeed fellows in many cases. The passage by the university of legislation entitling such individuals to fellowships led to the founding of two graduate colleges, Iffley and St Cross, in the summer of 1965.

Dick was one of the original fellows of Iffley, a college by name, but a university department in practice, with minimal funding and as yet no permanent home. Its fellows met in university departments and offices to plan a hypothetical future; she was a key figure in the developing concept of a very new type of college society.

Sir Isaiah Berlin was persuaded to become the first president of the new, unbuilt college at the end of 1965. Generous benefactions from the Wolfson and Ford Foundations followed. The hypothesis became a reality: a college for graduate students with a single common room, no high table, student representation on college committees, including the governing body. These were radical ideas for the 1960s, but very much a reflection of Dick's views.

She was appointed domestic bursar of the new Wolfson College in 1966, with Isaiah Berlin as president and her historian colleague Michael Brock as vice-president and bursar. As they negotiated the construction of the college buildings on the muddy site of J. B. S. Haldane's house at the end of Linton Road, she constructed the beginnings of a new college society, temporarily accommodated in various university houses in north Oxford.

Minimum entitlements were conjured up for a small fellowship, followed by a growing number of graduate students, junior research fellows and visitors, all somehow fed, housed and kept in order. In 1974 the new buildings were completed.

Cecilia Dick remained at Wolfson until her retirement in 1994, and watched it grow into a large academic community, with more than 500 graduate students, plus dozens of junior research fellows, research fellows and visiting scholars.

In 1952 she married Marcus Dick, a Fellow of Balliol. The marriage was subsequently dissolved. She is survived by a son and two daughters.

PROFESSOR ROBERT HEUSTON

Robert Heuston, Regius Professor of Laws at Trinity College, Dublin, 1970-83, died in Dublin on December 21 aged 72. He was born there on November 17, 1923.

ROBERT HEUSTON had a distinguished career as a law teacher in England and Ireland. He was the foremost legal biographer of his time in these islands and in his early years as an academic lawyer he made notable contributions to legal literature in constitutional law and the law of torts.

Robert Francis Vere Heuston boasted collateral descent from Robert Emmet, executed in 1803 for starting an unsuccessful rebellion against British rule and the author of a celebrated speech from the dock often recited as part of nationalist folklore. But that was far in the past. Heuston's father was an executive in the Guinness brewery and he grew up among the ex-Unionist Protestant business and professional classes who, despite the political changes after independence, remained dominant for many years in the life of the city.

He attended St Columba's College in Rathfarnham, the country's only British public school, and read law at Trinity College, Dublin, and King's Inns. He was called to the Irish Bar but decided to follow an academic career. After a brief sojourn at St John's College, Cambridge, he was elected a Fellow of Pembroke College, Oxford, in 1947.

Heuston lived the life of a bachelor don with rooms in college for the next 15 years. He enjoyed the genial and witty conversation of the high table. His lectures were well prepared and he enlivened the exposition of legal principle with items of historical interest. But side by side with the cavalier flamboyance he displayed as a lecturer, there was a timidity and shyness mixed with occasional abruptness that kept him remote from most of those he taught. Even by the standards of the Oxford of that day he cut an old-style figure.

In 1953 Heuston took over the editorship of *Salmond on Torts*, an established standard textbook. It gives an excellent, concise, descriptive account of the law and the relevant cases. Under Heuston's editorship, which continued until 1992, it eschewed the modern tendency to include extended critical commentary. It was, he said, intended to be a readable legal textbook and not a volume in an encyclopaedia of the social sciences.

His *Essex on Constitutional Law*, published in 1961 and based on his Oxford lectures, is a more original work, full of rich historical allusions. In 1964 he brought out his monumental *Lives of the Lord Chancellors*, which covered the occupants of the Woolsack from 1885 to 1940, from Lord Halsbury to Lord Caldecote. His sense of history combined with his legal scholarship to produce a book that is authoritative, entertaining and also pleasantly idiosyncratic.

In 1962 Heuston, long regarded as a confirmed bachelor, surprised his friends when he married. His wife was Bridget Ward-Perkins, the widow of a close friend and fellow don who had died at an early age leaving four young children. Three years later the University of Southampton appointed Heuston as Professor of Law and he took up residence with his new family near Winchester.

He enjoyed Hampshire life and his contacts with visiting judges and barristers. Full of anecdotes, interested in legal gossip and not too exercised by reform, Heuston was just the kind of academic who appealed to practising lawyers. This empathy was marked by his election as an honorary member of the Western Circuit. He was less at home with the new breed of academic lawyers who were recruited to the university and who tended to be reformist and disrespectful of the conservative values Heuston shared with the practising profession.

It was with some relief, therefore, that in 1970 Heuston accepted the Regius Professorship of Laws at his old university in Dublin. He had always maintained close links with his native country. However, like many returned Irish emigrants, he found life there less congenial than it had seemed from afar. He met tenacious and even truculent opposition from senior colleagues, which was carried successfully into the courts, when he tried to downgrade the part-time Reid Professorship of Law, whose last occupant had been Mary Robinson, now President of Ireland. The incident left the Law School at Trinity deeply divided. Its most brilliant lecturer left.

The burdens of administration prevented Heuston from writing much and those who thought he would write on Irish law or lead the way in plugging the yawning gaps in Irish legal literature were disappointed. He did, however, recruit as lecturers a number of young lawyers who were to make outstanding contributions to that literature in the last 15 years. It is probably true to say that Heuston was far less at home in a college whose character as an Irish Oxbridge was transformed as it became a more representative Irish institution. His flawless well-bred English attracted mimicry from less couth elements. He took retirement at the minimum age in 1983.

In 1976 Heuston was appointed as a founder member of the Irish Law Reform Commission and served six years. His name lent prestige to the new body, but in his period of office the commission produced little in the fields of law in which he was expert. Heuston himself was sceptical about the advantages of statutory law reform and especially of proposals much favoured by trendier academics, to introduce no-fault liability instead of negligence.

Heuston enjoyed the leisure won by his early retirement. Since his return from England he lived deep in rural Meath in a country rectory. He was active in the local Church of Ireland; and his Christianity expressed itself in numerous acts of personal kindness. He was frequently to be seen alone at race meetings looking slightly furtive. He loved outdoor picnics and travel, and he kept his English friendships in good repair. In 1986 he went to Cambridge for a year as a Goodhart Professor, and was also a visiting professor in Canada and Australia.

He was able to do more writing in later years. He published a continuation of the lives of the Lord Chancellors covering the period to 1970. It was not as well received as the previous volume and Heuston had to endure a rather severe review from the former Lord Chancellor Lord Hailsham. Heuston's last essay in biography was a piece on Patrick Devlin, the judge, published in 1993. He admired Devlin's intellect but found the motivation of that complex man unfathomable.

The final year of Heuston's life was not easy. Beset by cancer, he was distressed by the burdens placed on his wife whom he had supported through long years of indifferent health. She survives him, together with four stepchildren.

Church news

The Rev Elizabeth Johnson, NSM, St Clements, Oxford: to be Associate Priest (NSM), Islip w Charlton-on-Otmoor, Oddington, Noke and Woodeaton (Oxford).

The Rev Bruce Leng, Priest-in-charge, and Rector designate, Thrybergh: to be Rector, Thrybergh (Sheffield).

The Rev Timothy Lipscomb, Vicar, Armley w New Wortley: to be also Assistant Rural Dean of Armley (Ripon).

Prebendary Peter McGee, Rector, Otter Vale Team Ministry: to be Priest-in-charge, Woodbury (Exeter).

The Rev Jonas Mdumulla, Assistant Curate, Sutton and Wawne Team Ministry: to be Priest-in-charge, Carlton and Drax, and part-time Industrial chaplain (York).

The Rev Alison Meere, Team Vicar, St James, Hackney (London): to be Assistant Chaplain, Royal Berks and Battle Hospitals NHS Trust (Oxford).

The Rev Anne Melton, Priest-in-charge, Usworth, Team Ministry, Washington New Town: to be incumbent of that benefice (Durham).

The Rev Timothy Mercer, Rector, St Peter and St Paul, Swanscombe: to be full-time Anglican Chaplain to the Bromley Hospitals NHS Trust (Rochester).

The Rev John Morley, Team Rector, Wallingford: to be also Rural Dean of Wallingford (Oxford).

The Rev Roger Nelson, Curate (Minister in Secular Employment), Deal, St Leonard w St Richard and Sholden: to be Non-Stipendiary Assistant Curate (MSE), benefice of Great Mongeham w Ripple, Sutton-by-Dover: parish of Northbourne; and parish of Betteshanger w Ham (Canterbury).

The Rev Annette Nixon, Vicar, Olney w Emberton: to be Priest-in-charge, Worminghall w Ickford, Oakley and Shabbington (Oxford).

The Rev Paul Wakelin, Curate, St John, Sevenoaks: to be Vicar, All Saints, Perry Street (Rochester).

HEAVY FALL OF SNOW.
WORST FOR MANY YEARS.
(FROM OUR WEATHER CORRESPONDENT.)

The most severe snowstorm for many years swept across most of England and Wales on Christmas evening and continued until yesterday morning. Floods have occurred in the Thames and Trent valleys and numerous roads in all parts of the country were reported to be impassable yesterday owing to snowdrifts.

The meteorological situation on Christmas Eve by no means suggested that the South of England was about to be visited by a snowstorm of exceptional severity, yet by 7 o'clock yesterday morning the fall of rain, sleet and snow at Kew had already in 24 hours surpassed the largest recorded there at this season for at least 56 years.

During the spell of severe frost that lasted from December 15 to 20 the whole of Europe was flooded with very cold air emanating from the Arctic Ocean. The thaw that set in over the British Isles at the close of that period was less complete in Scotland than it was in England and sleet or snow continued to fall locally in Scotland up to the 24th. On that day, there was a well-defined "cold front" running roughly east to west across the Southern Midlands, the temperature averaging about 50 deg. south of the front and 40 deg. or less north of it. A depression associated with this "front" was filling up and there was every indication that the relatively cold air in the North would slowly work its way southwards and bring the mild weather further south to an end, without anything more remarkable than another of the periods of rain and gloom to which we are becoming so accustomed. By 7 o'clock next morning however, the "depression" which had reached the English Channel, had begun to deepen and the north-east winds were becoming strong over the whole country, at Holyhead gusts of over 50 miles an hour had occurred, and sleet or snow showers were extending southwards across Scotland. The widespread rain over England was replaced by sleet or snow on the hills at least as far south as Oxford, in the course of the morning.

In and around London the rain gradually changed to sleet in the afternoon and this was replaced by snow, which although rather wet, fell fast enough to begin to lie. Continuing throughout the night, and accompanied by a fall of temperature to a degree or two below the freezing point and a rising northerly wind, the snow drifted in many places to a depth of several feet. At Kew the rain and melted snow yielded the equivalent of an inch and a half of rain in 24 hours.

Since 1872 only one total of over an inch in 24 hours has been recorded on Christmas Day or Boxing Day—namely 1.36in. on December 26, 1886, which occurred under rather similar conditions. This also fell partly as rain, which turned to snow later, and was also associated with an intense depression over the English Channel and strong northerly winds.

During the recent storm heavy snow extended westwards as far as Devon and Cornwall; in the Cotswolds the fall appears to have been particularly heavy, Leafield having the equivalent of nearly 2in. of rain, which would correspond with nearly 2ft. of undrifted snow. Although snow continued to occur during the day-time yesterday, the amount was, as a rule, small except in the extreme south-east of England. In Scotland, and Northern Ireland occasional snow showers only were reported, and the duration of sunshine was sometimes between four and five hours. This relatively fine weather is "expected" to extend to the South to-day and frost is likely to occur nearly everywhere for the next few nights.

ON THIS DAY

December 27, 1927

This was a white Christmas to remember: drifting snow made travelling in many parts of the country hazardous, train services were disrupted and cross-Channel ferries, facing gale-force winds, had a very hard time of it; more than one suffered damage.

THE TIMES

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THE TIMES TODAY WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 27 1995

NEWS

£40,000 for Death on Rock families

■ The Government has paid almost £40,000 to relatives of three IRA members shot dead by the SAS in Gibraltar. The legal costs were paid on Christmas Eve after the families of Mairead Farrell, Sean Savage and Daniel McCann won the backing of the European Court of Human Rights.
The court instructed the Government to meet their expenses after ruling that the "Death on the Rock" killings breached the European Convention on Human Rights. It rejected their claims for compensation ..... **Page 1**

Freezing Shetlands declare emergency

■ The Shetland Islands declared a state of emergency as more snow was forecast after four days of blizzards. Nearly 3,000 homes across Scotland remained without power and all roads were blocked to ordinary vehicles ..... **Page 1**

Silence in court

Thirty-one defendants accused of crimes ranging from supplying drugs to burglary were freed when the Crown Prosecution Service failed to supply anyone to prosecute them ..... **Page 1**

Language barrier

French sensitivities about the spread of "Anglo-Saxon culture" have been reawakened by a report denouncing the "crushing hegemony" of English ..... **Page 1**

Genius at work

Genius owes more to graft than giftedness, according to an Exeter professor who has identified diligence, self-confidence and a stable family background as common features ..... **Page 1**

Security measure

Michael Howard has bowed to pressure from colleagues to reject plans to keep convicts and cowboy operators out of the private security industry ..... **Page 2**

Tessa's luxury trip

Introduced to encourage thrift, Tessas are proving the passport to long-haul luxury holidays. Travel agents are reporting a surge in business as the savings accounts mature ..... **Page 3**

Widow's crusade

Frances Lawrence, widow of the murdered headmaster who was voted BBC Radio 4's Personality of the Year, called for a moral crusade against violence .. **Page 4**

Nursery warning

Half of the 277,000 three-year-olds in state nursery education could lose their places when the Government launches its voucher scheme. Labour says ..... **Page 6**

Roads to ruin

The Department of Transport has admitted for the first time in its 60-year history that its proroad building policies have failed to take into account damage to the environment ..... **Page 6**

Flood victims

The bodies of 130 people were recovered and hundreds more were missing after a river burst its banks, sending a flash flood through a black township in KwaZulu-Natal ..... **Page 8**

Immigration racket

A Peruvian woman has been arrested on suspicion of running a vast people-smuggling network that used wholesale bribery to channel illegal immigrants into America ..... **Page 10**

Talking Turkey

Politicians in Turkey sat down to solve the riddles posed by the outcome of the Christmas Eve general election ..... **Page 11**

Bhutto rumours

Benazir Bhutto is in combat with extremist Islam; the Army wants her out; The Government is tottering. Rumours in Pakistan are an art form — and the West often falls for them ..... **Page 12**

Birds put the accent on love song

■ Local birdsong dialects are being used to trace the decline of the corn bunting, now close to extinction. Like Geordies or Scousers, corn buntings use the same language but in subtly differing accents. Populations just a few miles apart are divided by their song, with females preferring males who sing the same dialect as their fathers ..... **Page 7**

Nearly 500 revellers braved snow and the icy North Sea to raise £17,000 for charity in the annual Boxing Day dip at Seaburn, Tyne and Wear. The freezing weather that wiped out most of the day's sport is expected to last all week. **Page 1**

BUSINESS

Store wars: Asda supermarkets are to sell cut-price own-brand vitamins and minerals in an effort to break Britain's last legal price-fixing agreement ..... **Page 40**

On the move: Prospects for price rises from 1997 are the best since the 1980s, the Halifax Building Society says. A report by the society predicts that prices will go up by 2 per cent next year and by a further 5 per cent in 1997-98 ..... **Page 40**

Digging in: Miners at Coal Investments are curtailing their year-end break to help the company to weather a cash shortage ..... **Page 40**

Looking up: Airliner output is poised for take-off after a four-year decline, clearing the way for further restructuring of the world aerospace industry ..... **Page 38**

SPORT

Cricket: An unbeaten 83 from Daryll Cullinan helped South Africa recover from 89 for three to reach 230 for four in the fourth Test against England ..... **Page 21**

Football: Middlesbrough went down 4-0 at Everton, their heaviest defeat of the season. Rangers beat Kilmarnock 3-0 and now lead Celtic by five points ..... **Page 23**

Racing: Snow and frost wiped out the Boxing Day programme for the first time since 1962. The King George VI chase has been rescheduled for today ..... **Page 30**

Rugby league: St Helens were crushed 58-4 by Wigan in the Stones Championship. Scott Quinnell scored four tries for Wigan whose closest rivals, Leeds, beat Castleford 28-16 ..... **Page 27**

ARTS

Heaven or hell? Our series of Great Showbiz Disasters continues with Michael Cimino's *Heaven's Gate*, the 1980 epic Western that all but ruined United Artists ..... **Page 32**

Full Marx: At the Royal Exchange in Manchester, a group of talented comedians has mounted a stage version of the Marx Brothers' classic *Animal Crackers* ..... **Page 32**

Flights of fancy: A unique collaboration between the London Symphony Orchestra, Science Museum and Wigmore Hall has led to a project involving 150 children in the creation of a piece of music about wartime flyers ..... **Page 32**

Vivid Verdi: Opera North has produced a thrilling staging of one of Verdi's least performed operas, *Luisa Miller* ..... **Page 33**

FEATURES

A year to remember: *The Times* guide to the more significant historical events that will be commemorated during 1996 ..... **Page 13**

FASHION

Sales talk: A bargain is only a bargain if you realy need it. Fashion experts give their tips on how you can make the most of the winter sales ..... **Pages 14, 15**

HOMES

Bachelor pad: Rachel Kelly meets John Stefanidis, the interior designer, whose Cheyne Walk home, Lindsey House, is up for sale at £6.25 million ..... **Page 34**

INTERFACE

On the wire: If Father Christmas brought you a computer, you'll be itching to surf the net. Chris Partridge explains how to get connected, advises on how to choose between the many providers — and tells you how much it is all going to cost ..... **Page 35**

THE PAPERS

The Senate made a big mistake in authorising early deployment of a big-scale national defence against a missile attack. The Cold War is over. There is no reason to think the economically diminished and politically disrupted Russians are planning an attack or are in a position to do so if they wanted to
— The Washington Post

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ FILM
100 years ago tomorrow, the public saw their first moving pictures, courtesy of the Lumière brothers

■ BOOKS
Lesley Chamberlain on Dostoevsky's *A Writer's Diary*

TV LISTINGS

Preview: A right royal challenge for Pauline Quirke and Linda Robson. *Jobs For the Girls* (BBC1, 8pm)
Review: Matthew Bond unravels a medieval mystery ..... **Page 39**

OPINION

Turkey and Islam

The Christmas elections, for all the panic they have sown in the West, offer the secular parties an opportunity to act together to safeguard Ataturk's legacy: they may not get many more chances ..... **Page 17**

Make my day

We peer today into the clubbable hubbub which rises from the end-of-year party being held by history's Geminis: the gathering of ghosts is fun, for they are a gregarious, quick-witted lot ..... **Page 17**

Sweat and toil

"I have nothing to declare but my diligence." Mercifully, Oscar Wilde did not say that to a New York customs officer ..... **Page 17**

COLUMNS

BERNARD LEVIN
Even my waverings about art theft will not stretch far enough to believe that a *very* rich wicked man had got *The Scream* and was perhaps inviting other wicked men, almost as rich, to come over and see it close up ..... **Page 16**

ALAN COREN
It was a year in which seriously big bits of dinosaurs were found everywhere — from half a stegosaurus in Yucatan and most of a diplodocus in Arizona, to, in the Gobi Desert, not merely an entire oviraptor, but an entire oviraptor brooding over its clutch of eggs ..... **Page 16**

PETER RIDDELL
Mr Redwood has shown how quickly politics can change. Regarded a year ago as a fringe member of the Cabinet, he is now leader of the Euro-sceptic Right. His challenge had the perverse effect both of strengthening Mr Major and of making his name ..... **Page 16**

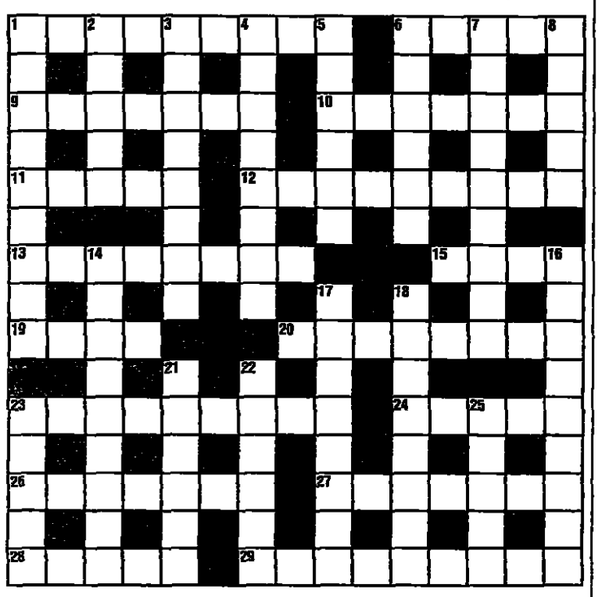
OBITUARIES

Dean Martin, Hollywood singer, comedian and actor; **Cecilia Dick**, historian; **Professor Robert Heuston**, legal biographer ..... **Page 19**

LETTERS

US motives for Bosnian initiative; ballot of Bar on complaints procedures; injustice to victims of infected NHS blood ..... **Page 17**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,048



ACROSS

1 One whose survey extends from China to Ceylon? (3-6).
6 Characteristic spirit from those in revolt (5).
9 Prepare to shoot hole in part of fighter (7).
10 Evasive about one of the strings in an Indian bedstead (7).
11 Adapt the Book of Psalms without a second thought (5).
12 Inspector with moral principles was used to Telegraph, from what we hear (5,4).
13 Islander gets extremely squiffy on Spanish port (8).
15 Porcelain that's delightful with char (4).
19 Almost dark, but not quite (4).
20 It's easy to sing along with a learner (8).
23 George has a car to drive (9).
24 Flower of youth initially taken by university selectors (5).
26 Girl holding yellow shrub (7).

Solution to Puzzle No 20.047

DUMBBELL P B R
N L M EVALUATE
AGIO O A T W S
U OUTOFTHEBLUE
L D T A O O A
BAMBOO GOSSAMER
T R N E S C
GENOESE DIPTYCH
R T B N F H
ASPHODEL FRUGAL
E E R O L L R
CHARLESSWAIN C
I V A S T EROS
SCENARIO E S A
M R Y MODESTLY

27 Next to receive attention in the refuge (7).
28 Dilute drink (5).
29 All extremely stiff. English at first (9).

DOWN

1 Signaller, of course, gives so-called instant food to crew (3-3,3).
2 Meeting to arrange parts for Tosca (5).
3 Scholar turning up for each period — that's the current strength (8).
4 In America, bear wanted, say, for him? (8).
5 Account for the Forty-Five, historically (6).
6 Shining coat the Spanish christen in (6).
7 Unfinished Symphony — it could be a way to get to sleep, apparently (9).
8 Fashion pointer (5).
14 Trumpet call — departs quickly (6,3).
16 Crane's supporter comprehending 29 as theme of his book (9).
17 Occasion is not outstanding, so to speak (8).
18 One has found several mates in this state (8).
21 University in favour of having a river for rowing (6).
22 Indulge in exercise, running round the fields (6).
23 No odds offered on the little murderer's weapon (5).
25 A set of convictions could make one embarrassed in business (5).

Times Two Crossword, page 40

TIMES WEATHERCALL

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Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouces,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereffds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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Essex,Herts/Beds/Bucks/Bonds,Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp, Penzance, Cornwall, 8C (46F); lowest day max: Tullochbridge, Highland -9C (16F); highest rainfall: Lerwick, Shetland 1.38ins; highest sunshine: Bognor Regis, West Sussex, 7.7hr

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FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will have another cold day, with many places struggling to get above freezing. There will be further snow showers, mainly down the east coast, but there could also be some light snow showers across western parts of Wales. It will remain dry elsewhere, with spells of strong sunshine.
Scotland and Northern Ireland will also be very cold, with a few glens in Scotland struggling to get above zero. There will also be snow showers, especially over northern and eastern Scotland. Otherwise it will be generally dry, with broken cloud and sunny spells.
☐ **London, Central S, Central N England, E, W Midlands, Channel Isles:** mainly dry, sunny spells. Wind light northeast. Very cold. Max 3C (37F).
☐ **NE, SE, E England, E Anglia, Borders:** some sunny spells and snow showers, heaviest in the east. Wind light, east to northeast. Very cold. Max 1C(34F).
☐ **SW, NW England, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, N Ireland:** sunny spells and wintry showers will continue throughout the day. Some will be heavy and persistent. Wind moderate, easterly. Max 2C (36F).
☐ **Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland:** sunny spells and snow showers. Winds light and variable. Max -3 (27F).
☐ **Outlook**: continuing very cold, with strong spells of sunshine interspersed with snow showers, especially in the north.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b = bright; c = cloud, d = drizzle, ds = dust storm; du = dull; f = fair; fg = fog, g = gale, h = hail; r = rain, sh = shower, sl = sleet; sn = snow; s = sun, t = thunder

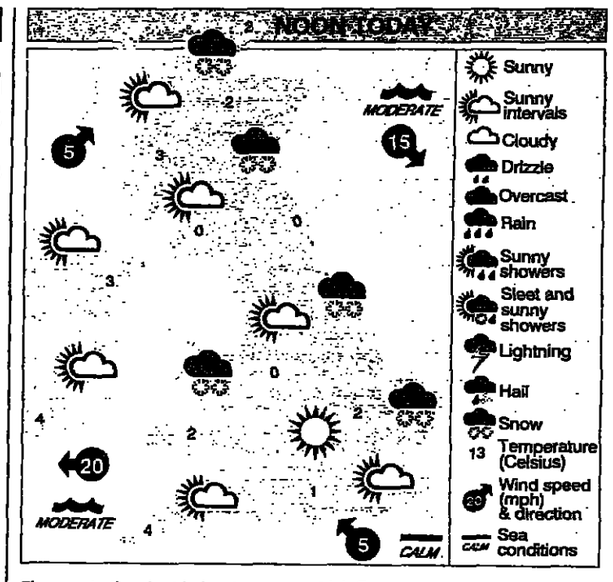
	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	x				
Anglesey	3.6	0.05	4	39	sn
Aspatria	4.2	-	-3	27	s
Aviemore	2.8	-	-9	16	b
Belfast	3.6	0.02	1	34	s
Birmingham	7.1	-	1	34	s
Bognor R	7.7	-	1	34	s
Bournem'th	5.8	-	3	37	s
Bristol	7.2	-	2	36	s
Buxton	6.5	-	-2	28	s
Cardiff	6.5	-	3	37	sn
Clacton	3.9	-	1	34	sn
Cromer	-	0.17	4	39	c
Doncaster	x				
Dunbar	x				
Eastbourne	7.0	-	2	36	s
Edinburgh	6.1	-	0	32	s
Eskdalemuir	4.7	-	-1	30	s
Exmouth	7.5	-	4	39	s
Falmouth	4.9	-	x	x	s
Fishguard	3.2	0.04	3	37	sn
Folkestone	7.0	-	1	34	s
Glasgow	2.7	-	-6	21	s
Guernsey	6.6	-	6	43	s
Hastings	6.8	-	2	36	s
Hayling I	7.4	-	2	36	s
Herne Bay	2.7	0.01	1	34	sn
Howe	4.7	-	2	36	s
Hunstanton	2.5	0.09	2	36	h
Ilfracombe	x				
Isle of Man	6.1	0.03	1	34	s
Jersey	7.1	0.02	5	41	s
Kinloss	4.8	-	-3	27	s
Leeds	4.6	-	-2	36	s
Lerwick	3.2	1.38	-2	28	sn
Leuchars	6.0	-	-1	30	s
Lindsmpin	6.9	-	2	36	b
Liverpool	6.7	-	0	32	s
London	4.1	-	2	36	s
Lowestoft	1.7	0.04	4	39	sn
Manchester	6.6	-	1	34	s
Margate	x				
Minehead	6.3	-	5	41	s
Morecambe	5.1	-	0	32	s
Newcastle	0.7	0.07	0	32	sn
Newquay	x				
Norwich	x				
Nottingham	x				
Oxford	6.5	-	1	34	s
Penzance	4.7	0.05	8	46	h
Plymouth	x				
Poole	6.4	-	3	37	s
Prestatyn	x	0.06	2	36	sn
Ross-o-wye	x				
Ryde	x				
Salcombe	x				
Sandown	7.4	-	2	36	s
Saunton Snd	2.4	-	x	x	b
Scarboro'	x				
Shanklin	x	-	2	36	s
Shrewsbury	4.8	-	0	32	s
Skegness	2.3	-	1	34	sn
Southend	6.6	-	0	32	s
Southport	6.7	-	2	36	s
Southsea	x				
St. Ives	x				
Stornoway	2.1	0.09	0	32	sn
Swanage	7.1	-	2	36	s
Teignmouth	7.6	-	5	41	s
Tenby	x				
Tiree	6.0	0.04	2	36	sh
Torquay	7.6	-	6	43	s
Tynemouth	1.6	0.02	-3	27	sn
Ventnor	7.5	-	3	37	s
West-s-mare	x				
Weymouth	7.1	-	4	39	s

ABROAD

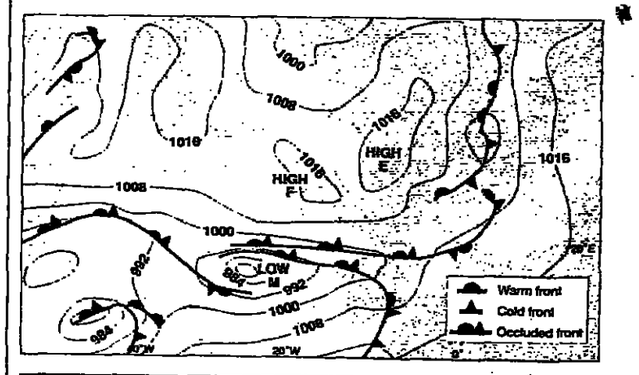
Ajaccio	16	61	r	Corfu	18	64	f	Majorca	19	66	f	Rome	17	63	r
Akrotiri	17	63	f	C'phagn	-3	27	s	Malaga	19	66	f	S Fr'isco	10	50	c
Alex'dria	21	70	f	Dublin	1	34	c	Malta	19	66	s	S Paulo	27	81	c
Algiers	24	75	r	Dubrovnik	14	57	c	Melb'rne	17	63	c	Salzburg	-1	30	c
Amst'dm	1	34	f	Faro	18	64	f	Mexico C	-	-	-	Santiago	-	-	-
Athens	17	63	f	Florence	15	59	r	Miami	13	55	s	Seoul	-2	28	s
B Aires	28	82	f	Frankfurt	1	34	c	Milan	8	46	r	Sing'por	28	82	f
Bahrain	17	63	s	Funchal	20	68	c	Montreal	-4	25	-	St'kholm	-17	1	s
Bangkok	28	82	s	Geneva	1	34	sn	Moscow	-12	10	c	Strasb'rg	1	34	f
Barbados	29	84	f	Gibraltar	19	66	r	Munich	-1	30	sn	Sydney	23	73	s
Barcelona	18	64	f	Helsinki	-12	10	s	N Delhi	19	66	s	Tangier	18	64	f
Belfast	-1	30	s	Hong K	18	64	s	N York	3	37	f	Tel Aviv	18	64	s
Belgrade	15	59	r	Innsbruck	2	36	sl	Nairobi	26	79	f	Tenerife	24	75	s
Berlin	-1	30	c	Istanbul	16	61	f	Naples	17	63	c	Tokyo	5	41	s
Bermuda	16	61	f	Jeddah	26	79	s	Nice	13	55	s	Toronto	-2	28	sn
Biarritz	14	57	c	Jo'burg	20	68	f	Oslo	-12	10	c	Tunis	22	72	f
Borde'x	5	41	c	L Angels	14	57	f	Paris	2	36	f	Valencia	19	66	s
Brussels	2	36	c	L Palmas	-	-	-	Peking	1	34	s	Vanc'ver	-1	30	fg
Budapst	4	39	c	Le Tquet	3	37	f	Perth	24	75	c	Venice	10	50	f
Cairo	19	66	s	Lisbon	17	63	f	Prague	-1	30	f	Vienna	3	37	c
Cape Tn	23	73	s	Locarno	7	45	c	Reykjavik	-5	23	c	Warsaw	0	32	f
Ch'church	17	63	-	Luxembg	-1	30	c	Rhodes	20	68	f	Wash'ton	1	34	c
Chicago	-2	28	c	Lyon	21	70	s	Rio de J	32	90	f	Wel'ngton	22	72	-
Cologne	1	34	c	Madrid	13	55	f	Riyadh	14	57	s	Zurich	0	32	sn

Temperatures at midday local time. x = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to the chart below from noon: high E will drift eastwards and slowly build while high F sinks southwards. Low M will run eastwards into France



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	5:09	7.08	5.45	7.18	Leith	6.21	5.40	6.40	5.41
Aberdeen	5.08	4.14	5.07	4.27	Liverpool	2.39	9.13	3.00	9.27
Avonmouth	10.53	12.85	11.16	13.25	Lowestoft	0.26	2.65	1.42	2.31
Belfast	2.46	3.22	3.01	3.47	Margate	3.18	4.76	3.59	4.60
Cardiff	10.41	11.46	11.02	10.99	Milford Haven	9.58	6.92	10.23	6.40
Devonport	9.32	5.46	10.01	5.07	Newquay	8.43	6.57	9.13	6.10
Dover	2.21	6.68	2.49	6.29	Oban	2.19	3.77	9.27	3.33
Dublin	3.16	3.97	3.28	4.26	Portrane	3.18	5.40	8.46	4.98
Falmouth	8.59	5.03	9.28	4.51	Portland	10.14	2.01	10.41	1.74
Glasgow	4.12	4.57	4.36	4.61	Portsmouth	2.54	4.81	3.09	4.54
Harwich	3.07	3.99	3.42	3.98	Sheerness	2.43	6.27	3.04	5.97
Holyhead	1.50	5.32	2.06	5.62	Southampton	2.13	4.52	2.30	4.37
Hull	9.56	7.07	10.04	7.44	Swansea	10.03	8.30	10.24	8.77
Ilfracombe	9.38	9.26	10.00	8.77	Tees	7.35	5.17	7.44	5.26
King's Lynn	9.46	6.30	10.06	6.56	Wilton-on-Nze	3.08	4.18	3.45	4.13

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises 8.06 am — Sun sets 3.57 pm
Moon sets 11.19 pm — Moon rises 11.03 am
First quarter tomorrow

London 3.57 pm to 8.06 am
Bristol 4.07 pm to 8.15 am
Edinburgh 3.44 pm to 8.44 am
Manchester 3.55 pm to 8.25 am
Penzance 4.25 pm to 8.21 am

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١٣٥ من الأصل

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Page 25

THE TIMES

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 27 1995

South Africa build solid foundations during attritional opening to fourth Test

Cullinan digs in to frustrate England

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN PORT ELIZABETH

PORT ELIZABETH (first day of five, South Africa won toss): South Africa have scored 230 for four wickets against England

THE longer the stalemate is maintained in this series, the more conscious both sides become that all can be lost in a single careless day. So bravado is banned, speculation scorned and the festive atmosphere of Boxing Day at St George's Park was starkly at odds with cricket of unbending attrition from two teams who dare not lose this penultimate Test.

One day in, neither side is close to the first, essential objective of security against defeat. England are exposed, as was always likely once they had lost an important toss, yet until teatime they had bowled so manfully in utterly unhelpful conditions that one further wicket could have tilted the day, and maybe the match, their way.

The desired wicket came belatedly, grudgingly. The second half of a day whose blue skies defied the precedents of this series and the pessimists of the weather bureau belonged to Daryll Cullinan and Jonty Rhodes, the sparks and the survivor in this South Africa side. Only when Rhodes fell, after a fourth-wicket stand worth 118, could England feel they had shared the points in round one of this contest.

Cullinan turns corner 26
Throwing controversy 26

Cullinan, abrasive and unpredictable, will resume this morning on 83, his third half-century in four Test innings this winter, and England will feel they must dismiss him short of what would be his second Test century to deny South Africa the sort of commanding total — 350 and upwards — they require to permit Paul Adams to bowl with maximum confidence on his debut.

There was nothing on offer yesterday for the England spin bowler, Richard Illingworth, but Adams is a far bigger spinner of the ball and will be given the fields to match. He will also have the priceless advantage of bowling last. For once, there was no doubt about that, no possible alternative plot in Hansie Cronje's mind, once Michael Atherton had called incorrectly after the announcement of the widely expected XIs.

Atherton remained stoically deadpan when the coin came down but his heart must have sunk, the more so during the opening session, as Andrew Hudson and Gary Kirsten proceeded without haste — scoring at barely two runs per over — but conspicuously without alarms. The pitch was even of bounce and gentle of pace; only in later days will batsmen trust it at their peril.

Through the day, Atherton was commendably alert. The game was never allowed to drift in the way that the batsmen would have liked, even if his frequent bowling and field changes were often the tactics of distraction rather than conviction. Once, late in the day and with the new ball only four overs old, Dominic Cork was having the worst of a spirited but potentially expensive duel with Cullinan. These two, team-mates last summer at Derby, have a history. They appear not to like each other; Atherton shrewdly took his man off.

It was not, however, that kind of day. Cork and Cullinan are vividly instinctive cricketers but here even they were operating under restraint, for to rely on instinct alone in these circumstances might not readily be forgiven. There was tension in the air. Music, too, from the local band who camped high in the old stand and sang through the day, drowning out the absurd "Barmy Army".

Cork's first spell was too short, on a pitch permitting no such margins. Mark Ilott, however, delivered his initial seven overs for ten. When Peter Martin relieved Cork and overpitched, Hudson drove him three times in his opening over. Within the hour, Atherton had turned to spin but it was the return of Cork, shortly before lunch, that produced the breach, Hudson following an outswinger to give Russell a routine catch.

Cronje now played the type of innings that should convince the South Africa selectors that he is misplaced at No 3. Reining himself in to a painful degree, he remained on nought for 45 minutes before pulling Martin for four. It was to be his only scoring stroke and, minutes later, as if finding his self-imposed chains suddenly tiresome, he ignored the sluggishness of the pitch and drove at a good-length ball from Martin. Atherton, who had astutely stationed himself at short extra cover, took off to his left to hold a fine catch.

This was England's best phase of the day. Gary Kirsten, who had crept to 50 in that imperceptible way of his, fell to a low catch at first slip as Ilott began to achieve the late swing he had earlier found elusive. The crowd of more than 16,000, close to capacity, was subdued, sensing the first of the game's crisis points.

Rhodes is familiar with such moments. Sometimes, it seems, his career has been a constant crisis, for the need to justify his place with something more substantial than image has habitually found him batting under personal, as well as team, pressure. Here, preferred to the pretender, Kallis, he did not match Cullinan's touch and elegance but he lacked nothing in the steadfastness most urgently required.

He had his moments of fortune, edging Ilott and Cork respectively over and wide of Hick, at second slip, but he also had his moment of fulfilment, when he pulled a long hop from Cork for six to complete the century stand. It was a similar ball from Cork, dangerously undeserving in that Bothamesque way, which dismissed him. By then, however, England's first assault had been repelled. Much, perhaps everything, depends on the second wave this morning.

Kirsten looks back in anguish as Thorpe ends his patient stay with a catch at first slip on the first day of the fourth Test at St George's Park yesterday. Photograph: Graham Morris

PORT ELIZABETH SCOREBOARD

South Africa won toss

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings

A C Hudson c Russell b Cork	31 (102min, 79 balls, 3 fours)
G Kirsten c Thorpe b Ilott	51 (166min, 128 balls, 9 fours)
*W J Cronje c Atherton b Martin	4 (49min, 27 balls, 1 four)
D J Cullinan not out	83 (218min, 166 balls, 13 fours)
J N Rhodes c Smith b Cork	49 (156min, 119 balls, 1 six, 5 fours)
B M McMillan not out	3 (37min, 25 balls)
Extras (lb 5, nb 4)	9
Total (4 wkts, 90 overs, 382min)	230

†D J Richardson, S M Pollock, C R Matthews, A A Donald and P R Adams to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-57 (Kirsten 25), 2-85 (Kirsten 48), 3-89 (Cullinan 1), 4-207 (Cullinan 67).

BOWLING: Cork 23-6-57-2 (nb 4; 5-1-14-0, 7-4-7-1, 6-1-10-0, 5-0-26-1); Ilott 23-6-60-1 (7-3-10-0, 4-0-17-0, 5-2-16-1, 4-1-11-0, 3-0-6-0); Martin 22-8-48-1 (7-2-20-0, 5-1-11-1, 5-1-9-0, 5-2-6-0); Illingworth 18-5-51-0 (4-2-5-0, 10-3-25-0, 4-0-21-0); Hick 4-0-11-0 (1-0-3-0, 3-0-8-0)

SCORING NOTES: First day: Lunch: 63-1 (30 overs, 120min) Kirsten 31, Cronje 0. Tea: 135-3 (59 overs, 238min) Cullinan 31, Rhodes 13. Second new ball: 201-3 (80 overs) at 4.50pm.

ENGLAND: *M A Atherton, A J Stewart, J E R Gallian, G P Thorpe, G A Hick, R A Smith, †R C Russell, D G Cork, P J Martin, M C Ilott, R K Illingworth.

Umpires: S A Bucknor (West Indies) and C J Mitchley. TV replay umpire: R E Koertzen. Match referee: C H Lloyd (West Indies).

RESULTS: First Test (Pretoria): match drawn. Second Test (Johannesburg): match drawn. Third Test (Durban): match drawn.

TEST TO COME: Fifth (Cape Town): Jan 2 to 6.

☐ Compiled by Bill Frindall

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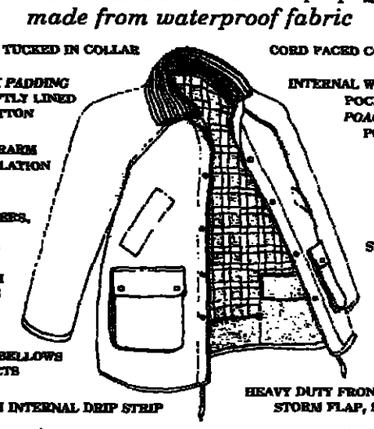

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Albion's sorry plight cuts no ice with Port Vale

Buckley: absolved by supporters for slump

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

OF ALL the pitches in all the places that were frozen solid yesterday, wreaking havoc on the football fixtures, it was sod's law that Vale Park, in bone-hard Burslem, should be playable. West Bromwich Albion thus came, saw and, predictably, were conquered, 3-1 by Port Vale. It was their eleventh successive defeat in the Endsleigh Insurance League first division, the festive cheer now somewhat limited in the blue-and-white corner of the Black Country.

It is a sorry sequence that has transformed Albion from promotion hopefuls — a win at Millwall on October 28 would have taken them to the top of the table — into relegation desperadoes. They are closing in on the post-war record of 15 successive league defeats, which was set by Walsall, in the old second division, during the 1988-89 season, and there appears little that Alan Buckley, the Albion manager, can do to halt the slide.

However, in the season of goodwill, it is perhaps appropriate that Buckley has so far escaped the wrath of the supporters. More than 13,000 turned up at The Hawthorns on Saturday, to witness loss No 10 to Crystal Palace, and their encouragement reached raucous levels as a 3-0 Palace lead was almost retrieved. Barely a murmur of dissent was heard. Two weeks ago, Buckley, 44, was even given a vote of confidence by the Albion board. Not verbally, which in time-honoured fashion inevitably leads to swift and acrimonious dismissal, but by being handed a 12-month extension to the three-year contract he signed in October last year.

Inexplicable? A self-protective reaction to the then vacancy at Leicester City, as some cynics have suggested? Apparently, not so. "Everyone is totally mystified about what has happened," a life-long Albion supporter and shareholder said last night. "No one really blames Buckley. He's got to be given some money but it doesn't look as if there is any. It can only get worse the longer it goes on and perhaps it's time for someone to come in, take over and provide him with funds." Eric Clapton, Albion supporter and legendary guitarist, was asked for financial assistance last year but his interest cooled once he realised the amount required.

Curiously, Albion moved up a place to nineteenth yesterday — by virtue of goals scored — and at least they still have a way to go before beating the all-time low of 18 successive league defeats, set by Darwen during the 1898-99 season. Should they pick up a point or three at Barnsley on Saturday, it will be a sad day for expectant anoraks everywhere. Bah, humbug.

CATALOGUE OF DEFEAT

Date	Opponents	Venue	Score	Pos
Oct 28	Millwall	A	1-2	3rd
Nov 5	Leicester City	H	2-3	6th
Nov 11	Derby County	A	0-3	7th
Nov 18	Grimsby Town	A	0-1	8th
Nov 21	Norwich City	H	1-4	12th
Nov 25	Sunderland	H	0-1	15th
Dec 2	Reading	A	1-3	16th
Dec 9	Stoke City	H	0-1	18th
Dec 16	Huddersfield Town	A	1-4	19th
Dec 23	Crystal Palace	H	2-3	20th
Dec 26	Port Vale	A	1-3	19th

Chase chastened, page 22
Ruthless Everton, page 23
Alcock at ready, page 24

Jones keeps Norwich among the down at heel

Norwich City 0
Southend United 1

BY DAVID MILLER

HOW *harsh the fall in football* can be. From the Olympic stadium in Munich and the San Siro to meetings with Southend in 26 months. No wonder Norwich's faithful supporters feel deprived, when so recently they could boast equality with Bayern and Inter.

To make a bleak December *even chillier*, Norwich, who a month ago were chasing promotion back to the FA Carling *Premiership, now lost a third* consecutive Endsleigh League first division match. They have taken a single point from the last possible 15.

They were beaten at home by east coast opponents they would normally consider as being *their social inferiors*. There *is* nothing worse in life than to be second class — as Norwich inescapably are, when compared with the genuine big shots — and to find *yourself upstaged by someone* regarded as unspeakably third class.

Disgruntled supporters protested before, during and afterwards, verbally and with posters. Regular defections from Carrow Road — Sutton and Fox, *for instance*, from attack, and two managers, Mike Walker and, last week, Martin O'Neill, both within two years — make Robert Chase, the chairman, an easy target. Prudent economics for a provincial club with attendances of 20,000 or less do not make for glamour.

After the defeat, several *hundred of the more mindless* gathered outside the main entrance, held back by a line of police, chanting: "Sack the board".

The uncomfortable truth for Norwich was that Southend, skilfully organised by Ronnie Whelan, of Anfield pedigree, had been worthy of the victory that lifts them to sixth in the table after eight matches unbeaten. Norwich had their moments, notably midway *through the first half*, when Adams had a lunging header cleared off the line by Powell, and then five minutes into the second half, when Dublin blocked a shot by Fleck on the line, after a tenacious run and low cross by Ullathorne.

The hallmark of Norwich during several seasons in which they were potential *championship* winners was their passing. That quality has declined and yesterday, on an afternoon of snow showers and biting wind, they found themselves matched by Southend. There can be no surprise at Southend's rise, for Whelan has them playing a compact game built from the back. Just like Liverpool.

Compact was at times a euphemism. Some of Southend's exploitation of the laws was *particularly refined*. For example, their centre back, Lapper — who was carried off with a suspected fracture at half-time and replaced by Hone — fouled Ward almost every other time he challenged for the ball. Yet so adroit were his obstructions, his wrestling arm-holds from behind, that a benign referee — the less *generous might* have said blind — seldom detected the offence.

Norwich began well enough, but the old ailment lingers. They have no one to finish the good work in midfield. Certainly not without a Sutton. Fleck and Ward did their best, but Powell, Dublin — particularly when he moved *to centre* back for the second half — and McNally were mostly their master.

On the stroke of half-time, Fleck and Milligan might have scored during a scramble on the six-yard line, and for the first 20 minutes of the second half Norwich had the edge. It was particularly galling that the only goal, in the *56th minute, was such a fluke*. Regis broke free on the right, his square pass was driven by Hails at Gunn, who parried the shot. The ball ran loose, Powell cut it back into the centre, and Jones back-heeled through a crowd of players, *with Gunn unsighted: Jones's* first goal for three months, but mighty valuable.

NORWICH CITY (4-4-2): B Gunn — M Bowen, J Newsome, S Prior, R Ullathorne — N Adams, M Milligan (sub: J Goss, 65min), A Johnson, K O'Neill (sub: R Newman, 85) — R Fleck (sub: K Scott, 79), A Ward.
SOUTHEND UNITED (4-4-2): S Royce — K Dublin, M Lapper (sub: M Hone, 46), M McNally, C Powell — M Marsh, P Gridelet, P Byrne, J Hails — D Regis, G Jones.
Referee: D Orr (Iver).

Chase: under pressure

JASON DAWSON

Lapper, left, shields the ball from Ullathorne, the Norwich City defender, at Carrow Road yesterday

Pantomime season at Ninian Park

Cardiff City 0
Chester City 0

BY OLIVER HOLT

IT HAS been a cold, cold Christmas in South Wales this year. Last Friday, Bobby Smith, the Swansea City manager, resigned because his club chairman would not pay *for 12 pairs of rubber-soled* boots for his players to use on frosty surfaces. Yesterday, 40 miles to the east at Ninian Park, Cardiff City went through more shoes than Imelda Marcos at a tap dancing convention and still could not keep their feet.

At least their Endsleigh Insurance League third division match against Chester City fitted in nicely with the pantomime season. Player after player fell flat on his backside in the ten-yard strip *in front of the main stand* where the sun had never *shone*, yelling at their respective benches, frustrated by their humiliation. Late in the game, the conditions assumed a more serious significance when Cardiff's new signing, Philliskirk, fell heavily and had to be carried off with concussion. The incident just *about sums up the area's* festive season.

Kenny Hibbitt, the Cardiff manager and the supporters' favourite for the manager's job at Wolverhampton Wanderers before it was given to Mark McGhee, was at least confident that he would hold on to his post after his contract runs out later this week. "For *the first time in about 25 years*, I had Christmas away from home," he said. "I didn't have to do any of the washing-up so I'm happy. In my mind there's *never been anything to worry* about as far as a new contract is concerned."

Still, Hibbitt might have slept even easier if his prolific striker, Dale, had not lobbed over the bar with only Stewart to beat in the first half. After the interval, Dale was again the main threat, forcing a fine save out of the Chester goalkeeper 12 *minutes* from the end.

Chester, who slipped from *the top of the table when they* lost at home to Barnet on Saturday, took some solace from their point which kept them in second place even though the leadership changed from Preston North End to Gillingham. Kevin *Ratcliffe, their manager and a* former Cardiff player, was disappointed they had not profited from their first-half dominance but pleased that *with nine men*, including Regis, unavailable through flu or injury, they had held on for a draw.

Ratcliffe was the main objector when the referee suggested calling the match off at half-time because of the worsening conditions. "If it was going to be called off it should have been done at nine o'clock," Ratcliffe said. "Once we got out there we needed to carry on to the finish."

*Hibbitt had been more con*cerned about the surface than his rival manager but had gone along with his wishes to play on.

CARDIFF CITY (4-4-2): D Williams — H Fleming, L Jarman, S Young, D Searle — P Harding, I Rodgerson, D Adams, J Gardner — C Dale, A Philliskirk (sub: S Haworth, 87min).
CHESTER CITY (3-5-2): B Stewart — S Whelan, J Burnham, P Jackson — G Brown, J Kenworthy, N Fisher, K Noteman, D Rogers — A Milner, S Rimmer.
Referee: G Singh.

Dutch courage gives Derby promotion edge

Huddersfield Town 0
Derby County 1

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

DERBY County will not have many tougher matches to endure than this and their ability to scrap a win in West Yorkshire, never mind a point, indicates their *resolve* will hold in the battles they will face in the new year. Huddersfield, beaten only once in ten matches before yesterday, gave them a good game, but were ultimately found wanting as Willems, one of two *Dutchmen in the Derby side*, stole a late winner.

Willems, playing just behind the striking pair of Gabbiadini and Sturridge, brought craft and an "old head" to Derby's play. His experience, coupled with that of van der Laan, is clearly a boon for Jim Smith as the manager tries to shape a team *consistent* enough to go up from the Endsleigh Insurance League first division. Smith has a *good record* at this level and the players are responding impressively.

Willems pounced on a loose ball 13 minutes from time to score his tenth goal of the season. Sturridge made the chance with a break down the right flank and a cross that Powell headed firmly towards goal. Francis parried the ball — *a good save, as it happened* — but Willems had both time and room to push the ball beyond the grounded goalkeeper.

It was the sort of goal managers curse, and Huddersfield must have felt they were worth a point at least. In the first half, when they were quicker to the ball and used it better, *they* were entitled to think this was their day. The art of winning promotion, however, lies in achieving results on such days and, as the game wore on, Derby warmed to it.

Gabbiadini had tested Francis *with a rising left-footer* from 15 yards, which the goalkeeper pushed over the bar, and headed a Rowett free kick into the custodian's *clutches*. In fact, Gabbiadini was a busy man before his late substitution and not always in the most decorous way. Quite why he should remonstrate *with the referee* when Carsley was booked for a mistimed tackle that cut down Cowan was a mystery. It seems some players are never happy unless they are running the game.

Huddersfield have more to offer *more than* their nickname, the Terriers, would have you believe. Makel, signed earlier this season from Blackburn Rovers, is a skilful midfield player, albeit the kind likely to fade when the tackles go in fierce and fast. His left-foot shot after 65 minutes was the best effort Huddersfield managed. Well struck, *it drifted* wide of Hoult's near post as the goalkeeper scampered across his line.

With Stimac, the Croatia international, reinforcing their defence from a position behind Yates and Rowett, if *not* quite a sweeper, Derby held their shape. Huddersfield should surely have made the best use of Turner, who is on loan from Tottenham Hotspur, along the left wing.

Buckley's woe 21

"I can't be too critical of my side," Brian Horton, the Huddersfield manager, said, "but we've *had a good run*." Indeed, and, with victories here against the likes of Norwich and Leicester, his side may still be good enough to stay on the fringe of the promotion debate. Derby, to the delight of their travelling support in a crowd of 18,495, look well equipped to retain the leader's spot.

HUDDERSFIELD TOWN (4-4-2): S Francis — S Jenkins, L Sinnott, K Gray, T Cowan — D Bullock (sub: S Collins, 89min), P Dalton (sub: I Dunn, 81), L Makel — A Booth, R Jepson, A Turner.
DERBY COUNTY (5-3-2): R Hoult — L Carsley, G Rowett, D Yates, I Stimac, S Nicholson (sub: P Trollope, 73) — D Powell, R van der Laan (sub: S Flynn, 89), R Willems — M Gabbiadini (sub: P Simpson, 86), D Sturridge.
Referee: P Rejer.

Newhouse offers worthy entry for miss of the season

Exeter City 0
Torquay United 0

BY STUART JONES

THE *official in charge resides in* Leeds, a curious appointment for a West Country derby during the festive period, *and his first contribu*tion was to order the kick-off to be delayed by half-an-hour so that the frosted surface could thaw.

At the scheduled start, 11.0, far more spectators were queueing up outside St James' Park than are usually accommodated within the antiquated *confines. The delay* at least allowed Exeter City's biggest crowd of the season, 6,182, to enter at their ease.

Only those nearest and dearest to *the players, though*, will have been *remotely enchanted by the ensuing* spectacle. As the worst team in the *Endsleigh Insurance League and* their poor relations matched each other for incompetence, it would have been kinder to cancel.

Aidan Newhouse, in particular, would have benefited. A centre forward on loan from Wimbledon, he was guilty of a miss which would *have been even more laughable*, had it not cost Torquay United two points which may, at the end of the season, affect the club's existence.

The clearest of openings was forged for him when Noel Blake, Exeter's assistant manager, lost his footing and control on the edge of his *own area, clumsiness which might* have taken some explaining to the rest of his colleagues.

Peter Fox is the manager and, in his other capacity as goalkeeper, partially rescued his accomplice. However, the ball span free into the path of Newhouse. Chances do not come any *easier. From a dozen* yards, he missed an unguarded net by virtually the same distance.

The incident is recalled in some detail because the rest of the occasion was not worthy of note, other than the names that were taken. Of the five miscreants, Paul Ramsey *and Mark Hall* were booked for their parts in provoking an unseasonal skirmish involving 20 players.

Eddie May, Torquay's new manager, concedes that he is "not happy" with the squad he has inherited. Yet his team, which has twice conceded eight goals within the past two *months, was appreciably the* brighter of two dull units.

Exeter, bereft of thought and technique, are in danger of losing their home. The city council has rejected an offer from Beazer Homes to build elsewhere the 77 houses which they plan to construct on the *site at the beginning of June*.

EXETER CITY (3-5-2): P Fox — J Richardson, M Came, N Blake — M Chamberlain, P Buckle, N Parsley, D Hughes, M Gavin — L Bradbury, M Ross (sub: M Cooper, 65min).
TORQUAY UNITED (4-4-2): A Bayes — S Winter (sub: L Barrow, 50), A Watson, I Gore, T Kelly — M Hall, P Ramsey, M Hawthorne, I Hathaway — A Newhouse, R Jack.
Referee: M Riley.

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MAN. UTD. v NEWCASTLE

Old Trafford, Kick-off 6.00pm, Live on Sky.

11/8 MAN. UTD. 11/5 DRAW NEWCASTLE 13/8

MAN. UTD. TO WIN

13/2......1-0	22/1......3-0
10/1......2-0	18/1......3-1
9/1......2-1	25/1......3-2

NEWCASTLE TO WIN

7/1......1-0	25/1......3-0
11/1......2-0	20/1......3-1
9/1......2-1	25/1......3-2

ODDS FOR A DRAW

8/1...0-0 11/2...1-1 14/1...2-2

BOLTON v LEEDS

Burnden Park, Kick-off 8.00pm, Live on Sky.

15/8 BOLTON 9/4 DRAW LEEDS 6/5

BOLTON TO WIN

15/2......1-0	33/1......3-0
12/1......2-0	25/1......3-1
10/1......2-1	25/1......3-2

LEEDS TO WIN

13/2......1-0	20/1......3-0
9/1......2-0	16/1......3-1
8/1......2-1	25/1......3-2

ODDS FOR A DRAW

8/1...0-0 11/2...1-1 14/1...2-2

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YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

POOLS PANEL
(s) score draw, (n) no-score draw, (a) away win, (h) home win

FA Carling Premiership

ARSENAL (1) 3 QPR (0) 0
Wright 44, Merson 61, 83. 38,259

CHELSEA (1) 1 WIMBLEDON (2) 2
Petrescu 10. Earle 34, Ekoku 38. 21,906
Sent off: V Jones (Wimbledon) 54

EVERTON (2) 4 MIDDLSBRO (0) 0
Short 10, Stuart 45, 60, Kanchelskis 68. 40,091

NOTTM FOREST (1) 1 SHEFF WED (0) 0
Lee 6. 27,810

SOUTHAMPTON (0) 0 TOTTENHAM (0) 0
15,232

POSTPONED: Aston Villa v Liverpool (s); West Ham v Coventry (n)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newcastle	19	14	3	2	40	16	45
Man Utd	19	10	5	4	36	22	35
Tottenham	20	9	8	3	36	19	35
Liverpool	19	10	4	5	34	16	34
Arsenal	20	9	7	4	27	15	34
Middlesbro	20	9	6	5	23	18	33
Aston Villa	19	9	5	5	25	15	32
Nottm Forest	19	7	10	2	29	27	31
Leeds	18	9	4	6	26	25	28
Chelsea	20	7	7	6	19	21	28
Everton	20	7	5	8	27	22	26
Blackburn	19	7	4	8	29	25	25
West Ham	19	6	5	8	21	28	23
Sheff Wed	20	5	7	8	28	30	22
Southampton	20	4	7	9	19	30	19
Wimbledon	20	4	6	10	26	40	18
QPR	20	5	3	12	15	29	18
Man City	19	4	4	11	10	28	16
Coventry	19	3	6	10	25	41	15
Bolton	19	2	4	13	18	36	10

Not including last night's match: Blackburn Rovers v Manchester City

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Crawley 3 Hastings 2, Dorchester 0 Salisbury 2, Halesowen 3 Worcester 3. Abandoned: Baldock v Rushden and Diamonds (0-0). Postponed: Atherstone v VS Rugby; Chelmsford v Gravesend and Northfl; Cheltenham v Gloucester; Gresley v Burton; Ilkeston v Stafford; Newport AFC v Merthyr; Sudbury v Cambridge City. Midland division: Bury Town 1 King's Lynn 5; Moor Green 1 Solihull 1. Postponed: Sedworth v Dudley Town, Corby v Grantham, Evesham v Redditch, Hinckley Town v Leicester United, Paget v Sutton Coldfield; RC Warwick v Bilston, Rothwell v Buckingham Town, Stourbridge v Bridgnorth, Tamworth v Nuneaton. Southern division: Ashford 1 Tonbridge Angels 0; Havant 4 Waterlooville 2, Margate 1 Sittingbourne 2, Newport IoW 1 Bashley 1, Poole 2 Weymouth 4. Postponed: Braintree v Erith and Belvedere; Cinderford v Forest Green, Fisher 93 v Witney; Fleet v Fareham; Weston-super-Mare v Clevedon; Yate v Trowbridge

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Barrow 2 Blyth Spartans 1, Emley 5 Frickley 2, Guiseley 0 Chorley 3, Winsford 2 Witton 0. Postponed: Bamber Bridge v Accrington Stanley, Bishop Auckland v Spennymoor, Buxton v Matlock, Droylsden v Knowsley, Gainsborough v Boston, Leek v Hyde, Marine v Colwyn Bay. First division: Eastwood Town 0 Bradford PA 1. Postponed: Curzon Ashton v Ashton United, Farsley Celtic v Harrogate Town, Gretna v Great Harwood, Lancaster v Netherfield, Radcliffe v Leigh, Warrington v Congleton, Workington v Fleetwood, Worksop v Alfreton.

Endsleigh Insurance League

First division

BARNSLEY (2) 3 STOKE (0) 1
Redfearn 30, Rammell 43, Liddell 62. Gleghorn 69. 9,229

CHARLTON (0) 2 PORTSMOUTH (1) 1
Newton 65, Nelson 89. Hall 9. 11,686

HUDDERSFIELD (0) 0 DERBY (0) 1
18,495. Willems 77

NORWICH (0) 0 SOUTHEND (0) 1
17,029. Jones 55

PORT VALE (0) 3 WEST BROM (0) 1
Naylor 48, Foyle 52, Guppy 88. Gilbert 63. 10,807

SHEFF UTD (1) 1 BIRMINGHAM (1) 1
Patterson 42. Francis 27. 17,668

TRANMERE (0) 2 OLDHAM (0) 0
Aldridge 67, 71. 9,787

WOLVRHMPTN (1) 1 MILLWALL (0) 1
Bull 10. Malkin 77. 25,593

POSTPONED: Crystal Palace v Luton (h); Leicester v Ipswich; Sunderland v Grimsby (h); Watford v Reading

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Derby	24	12	7	5	39	28	43
Charlton	24	10	9	5	31	24	39
Birmingham	24	10	8	6	34	30	38
Sunderland	22	10	8	4	30	19	38
Leicester	23	10	7	6	39	34	37
Southend	24	10	7	7	26	28	37
Huddersfield	24	10	6	8	34	30	36
Grimsby	23	9	9	5	29	26	36
Stoke	24	9	8	7	35	31	35
Millwall	24	9	8	7	25	29	35
Norwich	24	9	7	8	34	28	34
Tranmere	22	9	6	7	34	25	33
Barnsley	24	8	8	8	33	41	32
Oldham	24	7	10	7	34	28	31
Ipswich	23	7	9	7	39	35	30
C Palace	22	7	8	7	27	29	29
Portsmouth	24	7	7	10	36	38	28
Port Vale	24	6	8	10	29	33	26
West Brom	24	7	3	14	28	41	24
Reading	22	5	9	8	27	30	24
Watford	23	5	9	9	27	30	24
Wolvrhmptn	23	5	8	10	28	34	23
Sheff Utd	24	5	6	13	31	43	21
Luton	23	4	7	12	19	36	19

LEAGUE OF WALES: Barry 1 Ebbw Vale 0. Postponed: Aberystwyth v Caersws, Bangor City v Holywell, Briton Ferry v Inter Cardiff, Flint Town v Conwy, Newtown v Connah's Quay, Rhyl v Llansantffraid, Ton Pentre v Cwmbran

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Postponed: Bowers v Basildon, Brentwood v Romford, Concord v Hullbridge Sports, Great Wakering v Southend Manor, Maldon v Burnham Ramblers, Stansted v Sawbridgeworth

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bideford 1 Barnstaple 3, Brislington 1 Backwell 0. Postponed: Bristol Manor Farm v Mangotsfield, Chippenham v Calne, Elmore v Tiverton, Frome v Paulton, Odd Down v Westbury

Second division

BRENTFORD (0) 0 BRIGHTON (1) 1
5,794. Wilkins 42

BRISTOL CITY (0) 1 SWANSEA (0) 0
Kuhl 90. 6,845

CHESTERFIELD (0) 1 PETERBORO (1) 1
Williams 56. Heald 11. 6,017

CREWE (0) 0 WREXHAM (0) 0
5,177

OXFORD UTD (2) 2 BOURNEMTH (0) 0
Ford 11, Massey 15. 6,348

ROTHERHAM (0) 0 WALSALL (0) 1
3,694. Wilson 64

SHREWSBURY (0) 1 BRISTOL ROV (0) 1
Stevens 81. Beadle 58. 4,944

STOCKPORT (1) 2 CARLISLE (0) 0
Armstrong 18, Jeffers 78. 5,941

SWINDON (0) 0 WYCOMBE (0) 0
12,976

YORK (0) 0 BRADFORD (1) 3
5,218. Showler 21 (pen), Duxbury 70, Jewell 90

POSTPONED: Blackpool v Burnley (a), Hull v Notts County (n)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Crewe	22	13	5	4	42	23	44
Swindon	22	12	8	2	36	15	44
Notts Co	21	11	6	4	33	18	39
Chesterfield	22	10	6	6	34	24	36
Blackpool	21	10	6	5	32	22	36
Burnley	22	9	8	5	35	27	35
Wrexham	22	8	10	4	34	25	34
Bradford	22	10	4	8	32	33	34
Wycombe	22	8	10	4	30	22	34
Shrewsbury	22	10	3	9	31	29	33
Stockport	22	8	8	6	27	21	32
Oxford Utd	22	8	7	7	29	23	31
Bournemouth	22	9	4	9	24	28	31
Walsall	22	7	8	7	24	18	29
Bristol Rovers	22	7	6	9	23	32	27
Peterborough	22	6	8	8	28	32	26
Bristol City	22	6	8	8	21	29	26
Carlisle	22	5	7	10	27	35	22
York	21	6	3	12	23	35	21
Rotherham	22	5	6	11	23	36	21
Brentford	22	5	6	11	18	29	21
Swansea	22	4	8	10	22	36	20
Brighton	22	5	3	14	18	36	18
Hull	21	2	8	11	16	34	14

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: East Cowes 1 Cowes Sports 0. Postponed: Aerostructures v Eastleigh; Totton v BAT, Andover v Thatcham, Bournemouth v Christchurch, Brockenhurst v Lymington, Downton v Bemerton Heath Harl, Gosport v Whitchurch; Swanage and Herston v Wimborne

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Wick 2 Arundel 1. Postponed: Burgess Hill v Hassocks; Crowborough v Ringmer, Hailsham v Eastbourne Town, Horsham YMCA v Mile Oak; Langney Sports v Stamco; Peacehaven and Telscombe v Whitehawk; Portfield v Pagham, Shoreham v Southwick; Three Bridges v Oakwood

Third division

BARNET (0) 0 MANSFIELD (0) 0
2,204

CAMBS UTD (0) 2 WIGAN (0) 1
Turner 49, Joseph 66. Kilford 73. 2,855
Sent off: D Granville (Cambridge United) 87

CARDIFF (0) 0 CHESTER (0) 0
6,046

COLCHESTER (0) 0 L ORIENT (0) 0
4,965

EXETER (0) 0 TORQUAY (0) 0
6,182

GILLINGHAM (0) 1 PLYMOUTH (0) 0
Butler 83 (pen). 9,500
Sent off: G Clayton (Plymouth Argyle) 82

LINCOLN (2) 4 FULHAM (0) 0
Brown 33, Ainsworth 37, 81, Whitney 87. 3,693

NORTHAMPTON (0) 1 HEREFORD (0) 1
White 52. Smith 60. 5,222

POSTPONED: Darlington v Doncaster (n), Hartlepool v Scarborough (h), Rochdale v Preston (s), Scunthorpe v Bury (a)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Gillingham	21	11	7	3	26	7	40
Chester	21	11	6	4	38	23	39
Preston	21	9	11	1	43	20	38
Plymouth	22	10	6	6	35	23	36
Colchester	22	8	9	5	31	25	33
Darlington	21	8	9	4	23	19	33
Cambs Utd	22	9	5	8	35	35	32
Rochdale	21	9	5	7	33	24	32
Doncaster	21	9	5	7	25	27	32
Bury	21	8	8	5	24	25	32
Wigan	22	7	8	7	28	28	29
Exeter	22	6	10	6	23	25	28
L Orient	22	7	6	9	24	32	27
Barnet	22	5	11	6	22	25	26
Hereford	22	5	10	7	27	27	25
Northampton	22	6	7	9	24	24	25
Cardiff	22	6	7	9	23	24	25
Mansfield	22	4	11	7	30	41	23
Scunthorpe	21	5	8	8	28	28	23
Fulham	22	4	11	7	28	32	23
Scarborough	21	5	8	8	24	31	23
Lincoln	22	5	7	10	23	36	22
Hartlepool	21	5	7	9	20	32	22
Torquay	22	2	8	12	18	42	14

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Dartford 0 Furness 1. Postponed: Beckenham v Crockenhill, Deal v Canterbury, Folkestone Invicta v Ramsgate, Sheppey v Chatham.

HEREWARD SPORTS UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cogenhoe 3 Northampton Spencer 1, Kempston 0 Wootton 1. Postponed: Eynesbury v St Neots; Holbeach v Bourne, Newport Pagnell v Long Buckby; Raunds v Wellingborough; Spalding v Bourne, Stamford v Mirrlees Blackstone, S and L Corby v Desborough, Stotfold v Potton.

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Postponed: Barwell v Hinckley Athletic, Blakenall v Rushall Olympic; Boldmere St Michaels v Chasetown, Bolehall Swifts v Shifnal; Halesowen Harriers v Oldbury, Rocester v Knypersley; Sandwell v West Midlands Police; Shepshed Dynamo v Stapenhill, Stratford v Pershore

Vauxhall Conference

BROMSGROVE (2) 2 KIDDRMNSTR (1) 1
Smith 38, Carter 44. May 1. 4,398

HEDNESFORD (2) A KETTERING (1) A
Simpson 19, O'Connor 37. Haworth 24. 1,554
(Abandoned due to floodlight failure)

NORTHWICH (1) 2 ALTRINCHAM (0) 1
Butler 42, 64. France 71. 1,278

WOKING (1) 2 DAG AND RED (1) 2
Crooks 13 (og), Hay 78. Worthington 37, 90. 2,874

POSTPONED: Bath v Farnborough, Dover v Welling; Gateshead v Morecambe, Halifax v Southport, Macclesfield v Telford; Slough v Stevenage, Stalybridge v Runcorn

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Macclesfield	23	15	3	5	37	28	46
Woking	20	13	2	5	40	24	41
Stevenage	19	12	4	3	51	24	40
Hednesford	20	12	2	6	37	20	38
Kidderminster	23	11	4	8	45	34	37
Southport	21	10	4	7	43	34	34
Bromsgrove	23	9	7	7	37	36	34
Morecambe	20	10	3	7	38	35	33
Gateshead	22	9	6	7	25	23	33
Farnborough	19	9	5	5	32	25	32
Halifax	23	9	5	9	28	29	32
Northwich	20	9	4	7	33	31	31
Kettering	23	8	5	10	42	42	29
Slough	22	8	4	10	38	42	28
Stalybridge	23	8	3	12	26	33	27
Altrincham	22	6	7	9	28	34	25
Bath	23	7	2	14	20	37	23
Welling	22	5	7	10	28	33	22
Runcorn	22	6	4	12	31	50	22
Dover	22	5	4	13	27	42	19
Dag and Red	23	4	6	13	23	41	18
Telford	19	4	5	10	20	32	17

ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Chertsey 2 Kingstonian 1, Dulwich 4 Bromley 1, Hendon 1 Yeading 1, Worthing 3 Yeovil 2. Postponed: Bishop's Stortford v Hitchin; Enfield v Aylesbury, Hayes v Harrow, Purfleet v Grays, St Albans v Boreham Wood, Sutton United v Carshalton, Walton and Hersham v Molesey. First division: Aldershot Town 1 Basingstoke 1, Chesham 0 Berkhamsted 1; Thame 0 Oxford City 0. Postponed: Abingdon Town v Maidenhead United, Barton v Marlow, Billericay v Barking, Leyton Pennant v Heybridge Swifts, Ruislip Manor v Wembley; Staines v Wokingham, Whyteleafe v Uxbridge. Second division: Egham 0 Bracknell 4. Postponed: Banstead v Croydon, Canvey Island v Collier Row; Edgware v Chalfont St Peter; Hemel Hempstead v Bedford Town, Leatherhead v Dorking, Tilbury v Saffron Walden, Witham v Wivenhoe. Third division: Kingsbury 0 Wealdstone 0; Leighton 0 Tring 0. Postponed: Camberley v Epsom and Ewell, Clapton v East Thurrock, Harlow v Hertford; Hornchurch v Aveley; Lewes v Horsham, Northwood v Harefield, Southall v Wingate and Finchley, Windsor and Eton v Flackwell Heath

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Cliftonville 1 Crusaders 4, Glentoran 0 Linfield 3. Postponed: Ards v Bangor, Portadown v Glenavon

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Postponed: Derry v Bohemians, Shamrock v Dundalk

Bell's Scottish League

Premier division

RANGERS (2) 3 KILMARNOCK (0) 0
Salenko 24, Durie 45 (pen), Gascoigne 90. 45,173

POSTPONED: Falkirk v Aberdeen (a); Hearts v Motherwell (n); Partick v Hibernian (h), Raith v Celtic (a)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rangers	19	14	4	1	40	10	46
Celtic	18	12	5	1	35	15	41
Hibernian	18	8	4	6	28	27	28
Aberdeen	18	8	2	8	28	22	26
Raith	18	7	4	7	22	25	25
Hearts	18	6	4	8	25	32	22
Kilmarnock	19	5	3	11	23	33	18
Partick	18	4	4	10	13	29	16
Motherwell	18	2	9	7	13	20	15
Falkirk	18	4	3	11	14	28	15

First division

DUNDEE UTD (0) 1 HAMILTON (0) 1
Brewster 69. Renicks 65. 6,109

POSTPONED: Airdrie v St Mirren (h); Clydebank v Dundee (a); Dumbarton v Dunfermline (a); St Johnstone v Greenock Morton (h).

Second division

POSTPONED: Ayr v Clyde (h); Forfar v East Fife (a), Queen of the South v Stenhousemuir (s); Stranraer v Berwick (h).

Third division

POSTPONED: Brechin v Alloa (h); Cowdenbeath v East Stirling (h); Livingston v Queen's Park (h); Ross County v Arbroath (h)

ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION: *Premier division*: Postponed: Alvechurch Villa v Studley BKL, Ansells v Bloxwich Town, Coleshill Town v Chelmsley Town, Handrahan Timbers v West Midland Fire Service; Kings Heath v Knowle; Massey Ferguson v Coventry Sphinx; Northfield Town v Highgate United, Olton Royale v Shirley Town, Southam United v Wellesbourne.

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Postponed: Brierley Hill v Lye; Cradley v Hill Top; Darlaston v Wednesfield; Ludlow v Stourport; Malvern v Westfields; Gornal v Tividale, Pelsall Villa v Bloxwich; Stafford v Wolverhampton Casuals; Walsall Wood v Lichfield.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Clitheroe 1 Blackpool Rovers 0; Trafford 0 Mossley 0. Postponed: Bootle v Maine Road, Eastwood Hanley v Kidsgrove, Glossop North End v Flixton; Holker Old Boys v Penrith, Nantwich v Newcastle Town; Rossendale v Darwen, St Helens v Prescot, Salford v Chadderton; Skelmersdale v Burscough.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Postponed: Ashfield v Hucknall; Denaby v Maltby MW, Hallam v Stocksbridge PS, Ossett Albion v Hatfield Main.

POOLS CHECK

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	3	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1

21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
3	2	2	1	1	3	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	3	3	1

41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58
1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1

FORECAST: Telephone claims for 24pts, dividend forecast very good. 9 score draws and 9 no-score draws

هكذا من الاصل

Robson sees young guns shot down by Everton

Everton 4
Middlesbrough 0

BY ALYSON RUDD

EVERTON, who often struggle to find the right consistency of grit and flair, blended them perfectly to outwit a Middlesbrough side that looked to have cracked the combination as soon as they entered the FA Carling Premiership this season.

It is probably a case of Bryan Robson's team having done too much, much too young. Early success after their promotion, the signing of Juninho, their excellent support and new stadium gave Middlesbrough the aura of a seasoned Premiership club. Yesterday, naivety and complacency rippled through the side. This was Everton's best result of the campaign so far — and it could almost have been doubled.

Stuart: scored two goals

Short opened the scoring in the eleventh minute with his first goal in the Premiership, a beautifully-taken diving header from Limpar's cross which beat Walsh at his right-hand post. It then took the home side until the dying seconds of the first half to beat the Middlesbrough goalkeeper again in spite of a constant stream of Everton attacks, the most impressive of which saw an outrageous back-heel from Rideout find Stuart in space, but his shot was blasted disappointingly high. He did better at close range after Limpar's corner kick was partially cleared to Pollock who sliced the ball back into the penalty area allowing Horne to set up Stuart.

Whereas the first half had seen Limpar the more influential of Everton's two wide players, the second period pushed Kanchelskis into the limelight. The former Manchester United winger floated the ball across the penalty area to leave Walsh stranded and Stuart with an empty net to aim for to make it 3-0.

Eight minutes later, Horne released Kanchelskis and there would have been no one inside Goodison Park prepared to bet against a fourth goal. The Russian thrives on the pressure of having only one defender — in this case, Fleming — to outpace and then only the goalkeeper to beat.

Kanchelskis's confidence is presumably sky-high because Joe Royle, the Everton manager, chose his Boxing Day press conference to boost Limpar's self-esteem, instead. "There is not a greater talent in British football," he said of the Swedish international.

When Juninho signed for Middlesbrough there were many who believed Robson had secured the greatest talent in world football. The Brazilian had a miserable afternoon, however, and he rarely seems to turn it on when away from the Riverside stadium. It would be unfair to single out Juninho, disappointing though he may have been.

The entire Middlesbrough side were out of sorts and tactically at a loss, particularly when Morris, a substitute, was substituted himself to give Moore a chance to force his way through the Everton defence, which he never took.

Robson hoped the comprehensive defeat was a one-off, a case of a relatively young side finding the opportunity of pushing into second place in the Premiership a bit overwhelming. "The lads have come back down to earth with a bump," Robson said, wryly adding: "The lads didn't put the work in today."

They put in so little work, in fact, that Southall rarely saw the ball let alone touched it. The exception was in the first half when Juninho's free kick was met by Cox and the Everton goalkeeper did well to tip over the powerful header.

EVERTON (3-3-4): N Southall — C Short, D Watson, D Unsworth — J Parkinson, J Ebbrell, B Horne — A Kanchelskis, G Stuart, P Rideout, A Limpar

MIDDLESBROUGH (5-3-2): G Walsh — N Cox, S Vickers, N Pearson, D Whyte (sub: C Morris, 17min; subr A Moore, 63), C Fleming — J Pollock, C Liddle, Juninho (sub: J Moreno, 74) — J-A Fjorolt, J Hendrie.

Referee: P Jones.

Wright, centre, scorer of Arsenal's opening goal, has Brevitt, left, and McDonald in a tangle during the victory at Highbury yesterday

Arsenal stir themselves to halt slide

Arsenal 3
Queens Park Rangers ... 0

BY MEL WEBB

WERE Arsenal flattered by the margin of this FA Carling Premiership victory over a humdrum Queens Park Rangers side yesterday? A little, but after five league games without a win, any old performance would do as long as it yielded three points. Beggars they may not be, but recent form does not allow them to be choosers, either.

When they debrief at the end of the season Bruce Rioch and his charges will not look back on this display with any great joy beyond the simple pleasure of having won. Arsenal did a good deal of ebbing but not a lot of flowing early on, but having scored a goal at a psychologically damaging moment on the cusp of half-time they stirred themselves into giving Rangers something of a run-around in the second half.

In the end they were worthy victors, but only because in this slow bicycle race of a game they wobbled rather less than their opponents. Rioch admitted as much. "It was not one of our best performances," he said. "But it was an important match to win, particularly after the defeat at Liverpool on Saturday: hopefully it will lift people's confidence now."

Ray Wilkins, on the other hand, faces more serious problems. Wilkins might have some cash at his disposal after selling Osborn to Wolverhampton Wanderers for £1 million, but unless he wins the lottery sometime soon it is not likely to be enough. "A million pounds these days does not always buy you much star quality," he admitted glumly. The next four months might seem more like four years for the Rangers player-manager.

So fretful was Wilkins about his team's form that he exposed his 39-year-old legs to the chill air of north London, and, until he took himself off in the 73rd minute and put Dichio on in a last desperate throw for some sort of reward, he was by some distance Rangers' best player. Quality does not go away just because of the loss of a yard of pace and miles of hair. The number of passes he wasted could be counted on the fingers of one mitten.

As Wilkins was the most influential figure on the field before the interval, so Merson was after it. He was the fulcrum of most of the better things that Arsenal produced, and in being such he brought better things from Platt, Jensen and Clarke, his co-plotters of Rangers' intended downfall in Arsenal's midfield.

It is a year since Merson admitted to himself, then to the world, his addiction problems with alcohol, drugs and gambling, and Rioch paid tribute to the fortitude he has shown in beating back the devils.

"I am very pleased for him today," Rioch said. "He knows that the best therapy of all is playing well and he's shown that is what he wants to do. Paul can be a good influence on youngsters with the way he is handling this."

Two of the young men to whom Rioch was referring came into the team and demonstrated that somebody had put good thoughts into their heads. Dickov, 23, had played a handful of first-team games before, but for Adrian Clarke, it was his first start in an Arsenal senior shirt.

Clarke, 21, operated on the left side of midfield and was given the freedom to express himself as he wanted. He made a diffident start, but as Arsenal came out of their reverie in the second half he blossomed with them.

Arsenal's lead was given to them with typical opportunism by Wright, who with Yates, his marker, nowhere and Sommer coming off his line too late, stuck a toe on a cross from Dickov and stabbed the ball into the net.

Merson scored his first goal just beyond the hour after a sublime 50-yard pass from Jensen left him with only Sommer to beat, and Clarke and Dickov were involved in his second seven minutes from the end. Twelve months ago he was a picture of contrite misery in his rehabilitation unit. What a difference a year can make.

ARSENAL (4-4-2): D Seaman — L Dixon, A Adams, M Hasselbaink, N Winterburn — P Merson, D Platt, J Jensen, A Clarke — I Wright, P Dickov

QUEENS PARK RANGERS (4-4-2): J Sommer — D Bardsley, A McDonald, S Yates, R Brevitt — T Sinclair, S Barker, R Wilkins (sub: D Dichio, 73min), A Impey — M Halsey, K Gallen (sub: I Holloway, 66)

Referee: M Reed

Rangers make the most of rivals' inactivity

Rangers 3
Kilmarnock 0

BY KEVIN MCCARRA

AS THE only ground to host a Bell's Scottish League premier division fixture yesterday, there was a faint sense of loneliness about Ibrox. With the remainder of the programme obliterated by the weather, however, Rangers, used the opportunity to become even more aloof.

Victory widens their lead at the top of the premier division to five points, leaving Celtic to draw whatever consolation they can from their game in hand, away to Raith Rovers. Kilmarnock were scarcely even a distraction to Rangers, and so there was an opportunity to consider the long-term issues that concern the Scottish champions.

Oleg Salenko, having claimed the first goal of the afternoon, also set up Paul Gascoigne to score in the final seconds of the game. The forward's contributions at Ibrox, nonetheless, have previously been of less substance and speculation has persisted that Rangers are ready to move him on only four months after a £2.5 million transfer from Valencia.

Salenko is in danger of being regarded as a phenomenon who turned into an oddity. He does, of course, hold the World Cup scoring record, after his five goals for Russia against Cameroon in the 1994 World Cup finals, but his country has not capped him since. Coaches become vexed at the difficulties of integrating him into a team.

His touch is dependable, but often Salenko uses it only to set off on a run, instead of continuing a passing movement. The sources of that inclination are easy to understand. Salenko is stocky and the body scarcely seems to tremble even when barged by a marker. Given the scope to charge, he is a bullish opponent.

The style, though, often appears ill-judged in the type of matches encountered by Rangers.

United prepare 24
Alcock's mission 24

At Ibrox, especially, visiting sides establish layer upon layer of defence. Not even Salenko can expect to bore through all the strata.

Any forward who hopes to be prolific at this club must learn to do his most important running without the ball.

In a fixture of this type, goals come to the man who gets himself a yard in front of a defender when the crosses arrive, rather than to the attacker who hopes to dribble through. Curiously, it was Salenko's perfect demonstration of the knack that gave Rangers the lead in the 24th minute.

Onside as Laudrup swung the ball in from the left, the timing of his run ensured he was clear of the defence to volley across Lekovic and into the top corner of the net. That piece of play alone does not establish that Salenko has mastered new methods, but Rangers may still view the goal as a sign of progress. He has now scored six times in the league.

Marksmanship, in any case, was never to be much of an issue in this match, since Kilmarnock compulsively gave the ball away and only produced any sort of flourish in attack when they were 2-0 down and Rangers had begun to lose concentration.

The visitors' defeat was ensured two minutes into injury time at the close of the first half.

A clever flick by Gascoigne, back in the team after a two-game suspension and displaying diligence spiced with intermittent invention, would have taken him away from Lauchlan, had not the ball struck the teenage defender's arm.

Although there may be arguments about the degree of intent, Rangers had been denied a glaring opportunity and there was justice in the referee's award of a penalty. Durie converted it with little fuss.

There was little drama about Rangers' performance as a whole, but it is precisely their unostentatious accumulation of victories that makes them so formidable in the league.

RANGERS (3-5-2): A Goram — G Petric, R Gough, A McLaren — C Miller, P Gascoigne, I Ferguson (subr: D McInnes, 75min), D Robertson — B Laudrup, G Durie (sub: I Durrant, 84), O Salenko

KILMARNOCK (4-4-2): D Lekovic — G MacPherson, N Whitworth, J Lauchlan, M Reilly — A Mitchell, J Henry, R Connor, G Holt — P Wright, T Brown

Referee: W Crombie.

Tired Tottenham confirm their lack of title pedigree

Southampton 0
Tottenham Hotspur 0

BY DAVID POWELL

DAVE MERRINGTON, the Southampton manager, had predicted "a tight game" but said nothing about it being as soporific as a heavy Christmas lunch. The two goalkeepers were called on to make only three saves between them. Were these really the clubs that managed 20 goals in their four meetings last season?

For the second time in four days, Tottenham Hotspur wasted the chance to go second in the FA Carling Premiership. They looked what they were: a team missing the flair of the injured Anderton and Fox.

Gerry Francis, their manager, blamed Tottenham's shortcomings on too many matches at this time of year. Not only was he missing Anderton and Fox, but Dozzell and Howells as well, forcing him to field Sheringham, Mabbutt and Wilson with what he described as "heavy knocks".

Francis had been unable to refine tactics, not knowing who would be playing. "To get the quality back and approach games in the right way, we have got to somehow cut the games," he said.

Merrington wants fewer matches too. Le Tissier had asked to play, though not recovered from a calf injury, and came off after 20 minutes. "We took a gamble," Merrington said. "We hope we have not done too much damage." Not with two league matches and an FA Cup tie to come in the next 11 days.

Venison battled on, though suffering from flu and, with all the ailments in both teams, it did not help the cause of entertainment that half the pitch was still hard from the frost while the sun had softened the other half. "Frosty, bumpy and uneven" was how Merrington summed up the surface.

Generously, one felt, he gave both teams credit for "trying to play under the conditions". They tried but rarely succeeded. It hardly needed Francis to tell us that Tottenham have no chance of catching Newcastle this season.

At least, though, he is not spouting unrealistic optimism, as Howard Wilkinson did at the weekend when not ruling out Leeds United's chances. "In terms of having strength in depth to go on and win the league, we are a bit short to say the least," Francis said.

Newcastle, he said, have that depth. Liverpool, he suggested, have the depth possibly to chase Newcastle in hope. And Tottenham? "If we get into Europe, that would be a tremendous performance for us."

Walker twice kept out Southampton, holding a drive from Oakley and diving bravely at the feet of Heaney to win a 50-50 ball. Oakley, only 18 but showing potential, delivered Southampton's best opening with a low cross which ran across the face of goal with Warren, Shipperley and Hall following in, but none could manage the final touch.

When Dodd lost possession to Rosenthal, Sheringham had two bites at the cross but tackles by Hall and Charlton denied him. He put a header over the bar and finally directed the ball on target after 85 minutes, but Beasant saved with his legs.

Tottenham's best chance fell to McMahon who shot across goal after Wilson had released him into space.

Thanks to faultless displays by Calderwood and Mabbutt in central defence, Tottenham extended an impressive sequence of results to one defeat in 17 Premiership matches and are unbeaten away all season in the league.

Anderton should be back soon. His importance was underlined at the start of the season when, missing the first three matches, Tottenham took only one point. They were second from bottom in the table. The team beneath them was Southampton. Both played yesterday as if they were still down there.

SOUTHAMPTON (4-4-2): D Beasant — J Dodd, R Hall, K Monkou, S Charlton — M Oakley, B Venison, J Magilton, N Heaney — M Le Tissier (sub: C Warren, 20min), N Shipperley

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): I Walker — D Austin, C Calderwood, G Mabbutt, J Edinburgh — G McMahon (sub: S Slade, 74), S Campbell, C Wilson, R Rosenthal — C Armstrong, E Sheringham.

Referee: P Durkin.

Walker: two saves

Jones spoils celebrations

Chelsea 1
Wimbledon 2

BY NICK SZCZEPANIK

WELL, they did it the hard way. Wimbledon's first FA Carling Premiership victory since September was achieved away from home, after conceding a goal and despite squandering a penalty and being reduced to ten men. Who was sent off? Need you ask?

Vinnie Jones (for it was he) spent most of the 55 minutes he was on the pitch patrolling Wimbledon's midfield, with nothing more menacing to offer than the occasional grimace at his opposite number, Ruud Gullit. But with one fourteenth-minute aberration, a scything tackle on Petrescu (for which he blamed the slippery conditions), having already led to a yellow card, a little caution was surely called for. He had emerged after half-time deep in conversation with the referee, but whatever Dermot Gallagher had to say was obviously lost on him. Ten minutes into the second half, Gullit was heading harmlessly towards the corner flag when Jones rashly hurtled through him from behind and saw the eleventh red card of his career.

"I played the ball," Jones said later. "There was a bit of contact. In these conditions, things are going to happen — but he's a good referee and he saw it as he saw it. More important than that was a brilliant result for the team."

Glenn Hoddle, the Chelsea manager, did not see the result that way, especially since he had warned in the match programme against treating lower-placed teams more lightly than those in the top three, but the warnings went unheeded in the first half. Although Chelsea took the lead in the tenth minute, it was, according to Hoddle, "the worst thing we could have done". Peacock's cross from the left went beyond Hughes, but not the incoming and unmarked Petrescu, who drove the ball past Segers.

After that, Chelsea took their collective foot off the accelerator and allowed the visitors back into the game with a vengeance. After a number of close shaves, Earle headed home from Kimble's corner, then produced a right-wing cross that Ekoku glanced beyond Kharine's dive.

As the second half progressed, especially after Jones's dismissal, Chelsea produced sustained spells of attacking football, but the visitors responded with their customary defiance and might have made the game safe with 20 minutes left when Duberry brought down Ekoku. Holdsworth hit the penalty firmly, but Kharine, diving to his right, pushed it away.

"We've been desperately unlucky in other games," Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, said. On his 48th birthday, he had something to celebrate for once. "I am delighted with the three points. People have looked for things that are going wrong, but I know they're not."

The old Wimbledon attitude obviously remains undiminished by recent adversity and they have clearly replaced the ghetto blaster as a way of kindling team spirit before away games. "The determination is there," Kinnear said, "the commitment's there and the dressing-room is on fire."

CHELSEA (3-4-2-1): D Kharine — M Duberry, D Lee, A Myers — D Petrescu, R Gullit, E Newton, S Clarke — J Spencer, G Peacock (sub: P Furlong, 81min) — M Hughes

WIMBLEDON (4-3-3): H Segers — K Cunningham, C Perry, A Reeves, A Kimble — R Earle, V Jones, O Leonhardsen — D Holdsworth (sub: M Gayle, 73), M Harford (sub: J Goodman, 80), E Ekoku (subr A Pearce, 85).

Referee: D Gallagher

Lee leaves Pleat to ponder

Nottingham Forest 1
Sheffield Wednesday 0

BY DAVID MADDOCK

DAVID PLEAT chose this match to introduce his Yugoslav imports to the finer points of the English game. How ironic then, that his Sheffield Wednesday side were undone by a good old-fashioned, home-grown bargain.

Pleat, the Wednesday manager, took Kovacevic and Stefanovic from Red Star Belgrade for a combined fee of £4 million because, he complained, there is no value in the domestic market. Lee, the Nottingham Forest centre forward, may just persuade him otherwise.

The £200,000 signing from Southend has already seen off the challenge of another import this season, Forest's Italian forward, Silenzi. Yesterday, he saw off Wednesday with a classic goal after six minutes.

The tall centre forward found himself unmarked at the far post when Pressman, the Sheffield goalkeeper, flapped ineptly at a Woan corner. Lee leapt impressively high and steered a header powerfully downwards into the unguarded net.

He continued to terrorise the visiting defence throughout the game, although he did lose some of that early accuracy. Twice, he wasted good shooting chances, but he also used his height to create panic on other occasions.

Wednesday's forwards were never as impressive, although Kovacevic, making his full debut, did display a handsome technique and was unlucky not to equalise when his volley after 66 minutes scraped the post.

For much of the game, though, he and his fellow Serb, Stefanovic, who emerged as a substitute after 29 minutes for his debut, appeared not to be on speaking terms with their team-mates. Afterwards, Pleat explained why.

"It was very difficult for them," he said. "They don't speak the language and the game over here is very fast, very difficult to get used to — but they showed good touches and I'm quite pleased."

The Yorkshiremen were too dependant on Waddle's visionary passing, a tactic Forest, for the most part, managed to smother with their usual pressing game in midfield. Nevertheless, when Waddle, who runs like a man who has had a long day in the saddle, did wriggle free of his shackles, the transformation was from arthritic to artistic. One moment of beauty deserved a goal late on when he chipped from an outrageous angle — the ball sneaked back, embarrassed, off the crossbar.

It would have been an injustice though, had Wednesday equalised in what was a rather uninspiring game, because Forest had produced most of the running and most of the action. They exploited Wednesday's lack of discipline in an ambitious system that seemed to be designed on Lee's haircut — the pineapple formation.

Lee's partner, Campbell, was less effective, but almost stole another goal when his low shot hit the inside of a post. A moment later he was gone, replaced by Roy, the Holland international, returning after a six-week absence. This produced the biggest cheer of the day. It was that sort of game.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-4-2): M Crossley — D Lyttle, C Cooper, S Chettle, S Pearce — S Stone, S Gemmill, C Bart-Williams, I Woan — J Lee, K Campbell (sub: B Roy, 77min)

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (3-3-2-2): K Pressman — P Atherton, S Nicol, D Walker — I Nolan, C Waddle, L Briscoe (sub: D Stefanovic, 29) — M Degryse, G Whittingham — D Hirst (subr M Bright, 77), D Kovacevic

Referee: G Ashby.

Ferguson's problems worsened by block on Prunier

BY DAVID MADDOCK

IT IS traditional at this time of year to wheel out all the old film chestnuts. Manchester United tried, and failed, to give us *The Three Musketeers* at Old Trafford today. Alex Ferguson, the United manager, has attempted to get clearance for his trialist from Bordeaux, William Prunier, to play against Newcastle United to add to the distinctly French flavour Eric Cantona and David Ginola will give to the fixture.

His centre half, Bruce, was injured on Christmas Eve in the 3-1 defeat by Leeds United, and will be sidelined for at least two weeks with a hamstring problem. Prunier, an experienced international, would have been an ideal replacement and would have been in contention to play had the festive period not delayed his FA Carling Premiership registration. "He can't play because of red tape, even though we have tried hard to get clearance," Ferguson said.

Pallister, Bruce's defensive partner, is also injured and both Sharpe and Parker have flu. United will probably field Gary Neville at centre half, with his younger brother, Philip: deputising at full back. Giggs, missing against Leeds, will have a fitness test this morning on a foot injury.

Newcastle are ten points clear at the top of the Premiership, but Ferguson has predicted a victory for his side. "It is a game we must win and we are going to win it," he said. "We've had a few youngsters in the team in our last two defeats and maybe they felt it a bit at two very hostile away venues [Liverpool and Leeds]. But we are at home now and we will be up for it."

Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, is likely to keep faith with the side which so comfortably defeated Nottingham Forest on Saturday. Albert will continue unless he suffers a reaction to a slight knock.

Leeds will be without their suspended midfield player, Carlton Palmer, for the away match against Bolton Wanderers tonight. Palmer's latest booking in a reserve game puts him over the 21-points limit. He also misses the match against Everton on Saturday.

Emerging official makes mark on season with five dismissals

Alcock not afraid to brandish red card

Russell Kempson meets a Premiership referee who believes there is room for humour in a serious job

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Alcock, in relaxed mood, will be more keyed up when he takes charge at Old Trafford tonight

Paul Alcock appreciates a good laugh, even at his own expense, and it was thus a source of great amusement when he turned up for work recently and was unable to get into his office. Blocking the door was a 6ft x 3ft red card, which bore the message: "Love from a football fan. William Hill odds drop to 2-1 on for 12 sendings-off in a season."

Two days earlier, Alcock had dismissed Kevin Richardson, the Coventry City midfield player, at Villa Park. It was the fifth time he had ordered off an offender this season — his first on the FA Carling Premiership list of referees — and it had clearly made an impression with his colleagues at the Belfry shopping centre in Redhill, Surrey. Ian Herrett, manager of Marks & Spencer, had prepared the special welcome for his return.

"I was quite tickled with it," Alcock, 42, said. "Ian's always giving me a bit of stick, as do a lot of people at the centre, but it's all good-humoured stuff. I'm often out and about, walking around the shop floor, and little old ladies will come up to me and want to talk about it. You get a few comments, too — like 'Send him off, ref!', as you're passing by people — but it's just harmless banter and I enjoy it. It's fun."

When Alcock steps out at Old Trafford tonight, in front of a passionate audience and millions more on television, he will treat it no differently than his day-to-day managing of the Belfry — a £65 million complex of 52 retail units, though no opticians, which draws 120,000 customers a week. The meeting of Manchester United and Newcastle United could effectively end or revitalise the Premiership title chase but Alcock views it with his usual calm assurance.

"You always look at the fixtures before your appointments and pick out the ones you'd like to get," he said. "I thought it would be brilliant if I got United against Newcastle, thinking there wasn't a chance, so I was delighted when I found out I had. It creates an extra tingle of excitement, of course it does. I've done Newcastle this season but not United so obviously I'm looking forward to it."

If a red card is required, he will hold it aloft. With no fuss or compunction, just as Barry Horne, of Everton, Karl Ready, of Queens Park Rangers, Vinnie Jones, of Wimbledon, and Richard Sneekes, of Bolton Wanderers, have also discovered.

"When I look back, I don't have problems with any of the decisions," Alcock said. "I don't take any pride in sending off players; I'm just doing my job and I feel I've done all right so far.

"All referees should strive for uniformity and consistency but you should still be honest if you've made a mistake. If you hold your hands up sometimes, you'll get a lot more respect. Most of the time, it's a pleasure to be out there with the players. They're sportsmen, I'm a sportsman, and we're all there to enjoy it.

"You can have a rapport, a bit of fun, with most of them and it's not all as serious as everyone makes out. Criticism doesn't really hurt me, because people will always form their own opinions, but it annoys me sometimes when you know you've done the right thing, at the right time, and somebody's trying to say you haven't."

Alcock passed his initial refereeing examinations at 15, satisfying a desire to stay involved in football after a weak right ankle curtailed his playing ambitions. "I kept setting myself targets," he said. "It was tremendous just to reach the line of the Southern League." He joined the Football League list in 1982 and has since risen to the top, culminating in his appointment to the 19-strong Premiership elite.

Europe, however, is out of reach. Although he has made five trips abroad as the "bag carrier", the fourth official, the new intake of Uefa officials had to be under 42 on January 1. His birthday was in October. "Sure, it's disappointing," he said. "If I had got on the Premiership a year earlier, perhaps I'd have had a chance. Still, I'm one of only 19 where 35,000 would like to be, and I aim to maintain as high a level as possible and stay there."

Alcock's employers and employees at the Belfry are sympathetic to the demands of his alter ego. "They are quite comfortable with my commitment to football, which is very important," he said. Probably because he averages 50 hours a week at the helm, gritted the roof-top car park after a recent snowfall and helped to put out and take down the chairs for a carol concert. He is also vigorously involved in the centre's efforts to raise £10,000 for the Clifton Hill School, in nearby Caterham, for children with severe learning difficulties.

'You should still be honest if you've made a mistake. If you admit to one you earn respect'

"I don't mind mucking in," he said. "You lead from experience and if your staff see you don't mind doing it, they'll all do it. There are pressures and deadlines but, like being a referee, you can cope with it because you're coping with it all the time. Never let it get on top of you; just walk away if it ever gets to that stage."

Alcock spent Christmas quietly with his wife, Maggie, daughter, Rachel, six, and son, James, three. He set off early today for Old Trafford with his usual travelling companions — father-in-law, Stephen Cropper, and long-time friend, Phil Whatling. "Phil's a big bloke, he's massive, and everyone calls him my minder, but he's a gentle giant really," Alcock said. "It's always good to have someone to talk to on the long drives, to share your experiences, to change the subject if it needs changing." And to maybe muscle his way into your office the next morning if something is blocking the door.

McGhee's mission makes uncertain strides

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

MARK McGHEE'S managerial career with Wolverhampton Wanderers is still stuck on the launch pad. His first match ended in a 1-0 home defeat against Port Vale, his second was postponed because of a waterlogged pitch at Reading on Saturday, and his third resulted in a scrappy 1-1 home draw with Millwall yesterday. The onerous task, for any new messiah of Molineux, is perhaps a shade tougher than he originally envisaged after hot-footing it out of Leicester City.

Wolverhampton, pre-season favourites for the Endsleigh Insurance League first division title, took a 1-0 lead when Bull scored in the eleventh minute. So far, so good. However, Millwall then dominated the second half, despite a dismal previous record of five successive defeats, and equalised in the 78th minute when Malkin nodded in a corner from Savage.

Barnsley have been similarly struggling of late but registered their first win of the month when beating Stoke City 3-1, with goals from Redfearn, Rammell and Liddell. Although Gleghorn replied in the 69th minute, it was never going to be. Stoke have now suffered seven successive defeats at Oakwell.

No change at the top of the second division, with Crewe Alexandra, the leaders, drawing 0-0 against Wrexham at Gresty Road. Swindon Town missed the chance to overtake them when they also drew, also 0-0, with Wycombe Wanderers at the County Ground.

In the third division, Gillingham leapfrogged Preston North End and Chester City to take over at the top. A 1-0 success against Plymouth Argyle did the trick, with Butler supplying the winner from the penalty spot. Preston fell victim to the weather at Rochdale while Chester shared a 0-0 with Cardiff.

An injury-time equaliser by Worthington, Dagenham and Redbridge's recent signing from Halifax Town, forced a 2-2 draw against Woking at Kingfield. It kept Macclesfield Town, whose match was one of seven postponed in the Conference, seven points clear of the Surrey club, who have three games in hand.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Someone showed me this hand as part of a diatribe against light openings. She averred that gains on these bids are far outweighed by the losses. I am not so sure myself — if you pick the right moments, ultra-light bids can be very effective.

Dealer East **East-West game** **IMPs**

	♠A43 ♥AKQ ♦K5 ♣AJ1098	
♠J10872 ♥— ♦QJ763 ♣K42	N W E S	♠K96 ♥J42 ♦A102 ♣7653
	♠Q5 ♥10987653 ♦984 ♣Q	

Contract: Six Hearts by South. Lead: Jack of Spades

Love against vulnerable is the time when you can be most daring and, after a pass from East, South opened Three Hearts. I think that was wrong — those two black queens may be more significant in defence than attack. Also, second-in-hand pre-empts should be kept up to scratch as the hand may "belong" to your side.

Third-in-hand there would be much more of a case for Three Hearts. North raised to Six Hearts: that was a little ambitious, but it was by no means a hopeless contract.

West led the jack of spades. Do you see the best line of play? It is simply to hope that East has the king of clubs. If that is the case declarer will have four tricks in clubs to go with one in spades and seven in hearts. Other lines of play are inferior — for example, trying to ruff out the clubs means that the declarer will make fewer than four club tricks, so he will have to hope that the ace of diamonds is onside in addition to a favourable club break. Ducking the opening spade similarly requires West to have the king of spades, and needs some other good news as well.

South was up to it — he took the ace of spades, drew one trump and played ace and jack of clubs, discarding the queen of spades when East didn't cover. West won and switched to the queen of diamonds — king, ace.

This was followed by the ten of diamonds and another diamond, forcing dummy to ruff with a high heart and setting up a fourth trick for the defence with the jack of trumps. It all confirmed my correspondent's views of South's opening bid.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Newcastle results

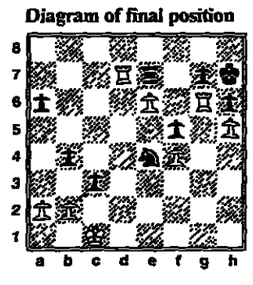
Over the past two years there has been an extraordinary expansion in the number of international master level tournaments held in the United Kingdom. The most recent to finish was the third Tyneside International in Newcastle where first place was shared by international master Neil McDonald and the local representative Tim Wall, who scored an international master result. These two notched up seven points each out of a possible nine ahead of Ansell on six and a half and Dunworth and Whiteley on five. Here is the game between the joint first prize winners.

White: Neil McDonald
Black: Tim Wall
Tyneside International
December 1995

Caro-Kann Defence

1	e4	c6
2	d4	d5
3	Nd2	dxe4
4	Nxe4	Bf5
5	Ng3	Bg6
6	h4	h6
7	f4	e6
8	Nf3	Nf6
9	h5	Bh7
10	Bd3	Bxd3
11	Qxd3	Nbd7
12	Bd2	Qc7
13	0-0-0	Bd6
14	Ne5	0-0
15	Ne4	Nxe4
16	Qxe4	f5
17	Qe3	Nf6
18	Qb3	RfeS
19	Bb4	Bxe5
20	dxe5	Ne4
21	Be1	c5
22	Qb5	Re7
23	Bh4	a6
24	Qd3	Rf7
25	c4	Qc6
26	Rhe1	b5
27	g4	Re8
28	gxf5	exf5
29	Qd5	Qb6
30	Rg1	bxc4
31	Rg6	Qb4
32	e6	Rfe7
33	Bxe7	c3
34	Qb3	Rxe7
35	Qxb4	cxb4
36	Rd8+	Kh7
37	Rd7	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



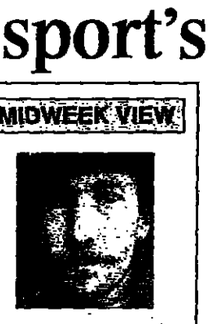
Hastings preview

The tournament at Hastings this year is a category 13, all-grandmaster tournament and is the strongest to have been held in the United Kingdom for many years. It starts tomorrow, and runs until January 6, 1996. The players include Alexander Khalifman (Russia): last year's winner, Thomas Luther from Germany; the British champion Matthew Sadler and grandmasters Julian Hodgson, Tony Miles and Jon Speelman. If you wish to attend or enter one of the subsidiary tournaments, contact Pam Thomas on 01424 445348.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

Warning signs of the beginning of the end of sport's golden age

MIDWEEK VIEW



SIMON BARNES

We had all the momentum; we were riding the crest of a high and beautiful wave ... now you can go up on a steep hill and look west and, with the right kind of eyes, you can almost see the high-water mark — that place where the wave finally broke and rolled back.

These are the words of Hunter S. Thompson in *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*. They were written in the mid-Seventies and referred to the death of the Sixties. I am rather inclined to use them for sport.

For the tidal wave of sport has been getting bigger every year. More of it. More money. More things to buy. Far more of it to watch. Televised sport is always with us. Always more and more people employed — not to play it, but to take part in an industry that grows in a thousand different directions.

The television/sport symbiosis is the most powerful item in the history of communications: beyond words, beyond language. We are all seagulls following the trawler of sport and the sardines are there beyond counting.

It seems that the public demand for sport is insatiable: that the only possibility, the only available option, is growth. Sport is a simple pleasure for billions — and so, for a few, it is the golden road to pure power: Samaranch, Havelange, McCormack, Murdoch. No doubt these operators also stand on that steep hill, looking west. No doubt they are capable of pricing to the last million the point at which the wave begins to break and roll back. As we look to 1996, I wonder, has the high-water mark been reached?

On the face of it, we have before us an unprecedented summer of sport. Treat follows treat breathlessly, remorselessly. For the first time, we have 16 nations taking part in the finals of the European football championship. Then Wimbledon. Then the Olympic Games. And all the while, two separate Test series will be fought out against the background din of Formula One.

I am looking forward to it all, even though I might be a little bit curled around the edges come autumn. All the same, there are a number of signs that might, or might not, indicate the high-water mark.

One of these turned up on the England tour of South Africa. This was the moment when a proper cricket match was called off in the middle, because it was getting a bit dull. A one-dayer, meaningless even by the standards of the genre, was played instead, for a bit of instant gratification. In seeking to be entertaining, sport betrays itself. It weakens its grasp on the public imagination. Sport is competition. Entertainment is a by-product. Sport's two great gifts are competition and entertainment. A decision to abandon a cricket match for no good reason was a perfect example of sport selling out to its lesser gift.

I also have an odd feeling about the Derby. There was a time when the first Wednesday in June was the greatest day of the year: the perfect culmination, the perfect promise of what was to come. It has now become a tacky old tart of an event, doing anything it can to catch the eye and turn a trick. Last year, it switched from Wednesday to Saturday, dodging the bolder course of going for a Sunday. Now for next year, they are talking about switching to 2.30, so it won't come up against the opening of the European football championship.

The fact is that the world's greatest Flat race lost its way some years back and is floundering, trying to make up lost ground. One of the great events of history, and it is losing ground. Bad sign.

Here is another one: baseball salaries. Coo gosh, millions of dollars. Now even more millions — but at last it has happened. For the first time in 30 years, the average salary of a major league baseball player has fallen. It is still pretty good money: but it has fallen from $1,168,263 in 1994 to $1,110,766 this year. The median salary — half earned more, half earned less — fell to $275,000, a drop of 5.6 per cent, a level last seen in 1988. On the top of the lofty salary of the baseball star is mounted a weathercock: it indicates that the direction of the wind has changed.

'In losing Lara, sport shows it has lost something of itself'

Another straw that indicates the way the wind is blowing bears the name of Brian Lara. Lara is one of the most talented men to pick up a cricket bat — one of the best, perhaps destined to be one of the truly great — but he has dropped out of the West Indies side. Spoilt-brattiness is only half the story. The fact is that for a year, he has been sick to death of cricket: soul-weary.

Nobody who has ever had rent to pay can blame Lara for refusing to duck when money is thrown at him. The long-term view is to set yourself up for life while the going is good. But the process of it has destroyed him, perhaps forever, as a cricketer. Sport cannot afford to lose its champions so cheaply.

Great players come and go: but they do not normally do so because they are sick to death of their sport. In losing Lara, if only for a time, sport shows that it has lost something of itself.

Now let us come to the Olympic Games. The Olympics cannot fail to provide its share of heart-lifting moments. But there is something in the prospect of the 1996 Games that has me wincing. I recall vividly how the Los Angeles Games of 1984 became the Festival of American Victory. Its prevailing image was the tear-stained athlete with right hand clutching left bosom, its prevailing music was the *Star-Spangled Banner*, its prevailing sound was the *whooo-oooop!* of jingo-crazed crowds.

The Americanisation of the Games, the Coca-Colonisation of the Olympic Movement — otherwise known as the world — is a fact of life, but I fear that the Games will spell this out too clearly. The Olympics will become yet another remake of that tawdry old movie, *America Conquers the World*, this one to be called *America Slays the Slain*. The world will be able to do nothing but grit its teeth.

Fear and Loathing in Atlanta. Will we feel, long before the swimming is over and the track and field begins, that we have had a bellyful of American jingoism? Will we, like Lara, become fed up with sport itself? Will there come a day when we can stand on a steep hill outside Atlanta and say, yes, that is the place where the wave of sport broke and rolled back? 1996: the first year in the death of sport?

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

YERRA
a. The spotted woodpecker
b. By Gosh yes
c. A Hawick tweed

SPHECID
a. Suicidal
b. Elliptical
c. A wasp

WEATINGS
a. Wheat dross
b. Weather forecasts
c. A country dance

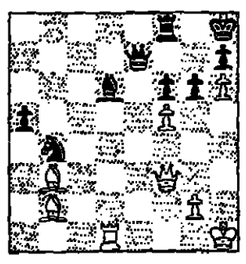
SIREX
a. A wasp
b. A sea nymph
c. A purple dye

Answers on page 38

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Speelman — Kosten, Hastings Premier 1990. At this moment, during the course of a fluctuating struggle, Speelman spotted a chance to break through Black's defences. What did he play?



Solution on page 38

The Quiz of the Sporting Year compiled by John Goodbody

'You only had to look at my fantasy league points to see I was out of it'

JANUARY

1. The wife of which cricketer described herself as "the proudest wife in all England", after her husband had scored 51 and then taken six for 49 against Australia in the third Test at Sydney?
2. Which player was transferred from Manchester United to Newcastle United as part of the deal which took Andy Cole to Old Trafford?
3. Whose father was described as "the tennis parent from hell"?
4. Which club knocked Arsenal out of the FA Cup in a replay at Highbury?
5. What was the score of the FA Carling Premiership match between Crystal Palace and Manchester United in which Eric Cantona attacked a spectator?
6. Which team won the Super Bowl XXIX?
7. Which England cricketer scored his first Test century for eight years in the fourth Test against Australia?

A: This jockey won the Martell Grand National. Name him and his horse

FEBRUARY

8. Which English footballer celebrated his eightieth birthday on February 1?
9. In rugby league, England lost to which nation for the first time since 1977?
10. Fred Perry died on February 2, aged 85. He won the men's singles title at Wimbledon on three occasions. What were the years?
11. Which footballer was omitted from the England team to meet the Republic of Ireland in Dublin because he had been committed for criminal damage and common assault?
12. Gary and Philip Neville, the Manchester Unied players, have a younger sister, Tracey. She has been selected for an England Under-21 squad in which sport?
13. Which international sportsman with dual nationality opted to represent Britain rather than Canada?
14. Linford Christie set a world indoor sprint record in Liévin, France. What was the distance?

MARCH

15. Which famous American player returned to basketball after an absence of 17 months?
16. Who stopped Herbie Hide, the British heavyweight boxer, in a WBO title fight in Las Vegas?
17. In which sport was a 17-year-old British schoolboy suspended from international competition for a drug offence?
18. What was the score of the FA Carling Premiership match between Manchester United and Ipswich Town?
19. In which world championships in Britain were competitors ordered "Please move directly to the kiss and cry area immediately following your performance"?
20. In the world indoor athletics championships, *God Save the Queen* was played at the triple jump medal ceremony. Which country did the winner represent?
21. Which drivers were disqualified and later reinstated from the Brazilian Grand Prix because of irregularities with their fuel?

APRIL

22. What famous sporting reference book was claimed by statisticians to have a large number of inaccuracies in some of its older editions?
23. Which club did Liverpool beat to win the Coca-Cola Cup final and who scored both their goals?
24. The athletics coach who advised Roger Bannister in his preparations to become the first man to run a sub-four minute mile died this month in Australia. What was his name?
25. Which governing body celebrated the centenary of its formation at the Wimbledon club?
26. Who said "You only had to look at my fantasy league points to see I was completely out of it"?
27. Who broke his arm, so forfeiting his chance of winning the National Hunt jockeys' championship for the first time in his career?
28. Which American football quarterback announced his retirement?

MAY

29. How many "old farts" did Will Carling say were running rugby union before his dismissal and reinstatement as England captain?
30. Who bought three Bentley Azure convertibles after being released from prison?
31. Who scored Real Zaragoza's winning goal against Arsenal in the final minute of extra time in the European Cup Winners' Cup final in Paris?
32. Which new county cricket ground staged its first championship match?
33. Whom did South Africa beat in the opening match of the rugby union World Cup?
34. The footballer who holds the record for scoring the most goals (seven) in a first division or premiership match died this month. Who was he?
35. Who held a farewell party at the Comedy Café?

JUNE

36. In the rugby union World Cup, which country did England beat in the last of their three pool matches to guarantee their place in the quarter-finals?
37. What was the nationality of the runner who became the first athlete since Henry Rono to hold world records at both 5,000 and 10,000 metres?
38. How many tries did Jonah Lomu score for New Zealand in their victory over England in the rugby union World Cup semi-finals?
39. From which club did Dennis Bergkamp, the Holland international, join Arsenal for a fee of £7.5 million?
40. In England's victory over West Indies in the second Cornhill Test at Lord's, how many wickets did Dominic Cork take in the second innings?
41. Which British cyclist failed to make his thirteenth appearance in the Tour de France because his sponsors suffered financial difficulties?

JULY

42. Who crashed in the prologue of the Tour de France and suffered injuries which prevented him taking any further part in the race?
43. Who beat Greg Rusedski to reach the quarter-finals of the men's singles at Wimbledon?
44. Which Formula One driver accused one of his rivals of behaving in a "dangerous and unsporting way" in the French Grand Prix?
45. Which famous former sportsman, now a journalist, obtained an interview with Colonel Gaddafi?
46. Who won the British Formula One Grand Prix?
47. Who scored a century in the Benson and Hedges Cup final at Lord's?
48. Miguel Induráin won the Tour de France for the fifth time. Who are the other three cyclists to have won the race five times?
49. Who tied with John Daly after four rounds of the Open golf championship but lost in the play-off?

CLASSIC MALTS OF SCOTLAND

THE TIMES **presents the traditional festive challenge — The Quiz of the Sporting Year. Test your knowledge on the milestones and misfortunes that made 1995 a year to remember and you may be the winner of a selection of six classic malt whiskies. The sender of the first correct entry drawn will receive The Classic Malts, six outstanding single malt whiskies from the main producing regions of Scotland — Glenkinchie, Dalwhinnie, Cragganmore, Talisker, Lagavulin and Oban.**

The six runners-up will receive *Best 7*, a celebration of the finest pictures from the International Olympic Committee's best of sport photographic contest this year. *Best 7* is published by Kensington West Productions at £19.99.

***Best 7*: the runners-up prize**

B: Who is this player and who said of him "He has shot himself in the foot inexplicably"?

AUGUST

50. Which former Wimbledon, Aston Villa and England international footballer was forced to retire after suffering a knee injury when he collided with Ryan Giggs, of Manchester United?
51. What was the nationality of the sprinter who won the men's 100 metres at the world athletics championships in Gothenburg?
52. How many times did Jonathan Edwards break the world triple jump record at the world championships?
53. Who was disqualified for running out of her lane after winning the women's 200 metres in the world championships?
54. Which England fielder was seriously injured when hit on the back of the head by a ball struck by Kenny Benjamin during the fifth Test at Trent Bridge?
55. Who won the lightweight single sculls event at the world rowing championships in Tampere, Finland, for the third successive year?

SEPTEMBER

56. Whom did Frank Bruno defeat to win the World Boxing Council heavyweight title at Wembley and how did he achieve his victory — points, knockout, referee stopped the fight or disqualification?
57. In which sport were two women banned for life, after first failing to attend the presentation dinner when they won the county title and then declining to represent their county in the national championships?
58. What was the name and nationality of the goalkeeper who performed the "scorpion" kick — a horizontal jack-knifed clearance of the ball, falling over his head — during an international against England at Wembley?
59. Who suggested in a controversial lecture that it was "obvious" that black sprinters had certain anatomical advantages denied to whites?
60. Who finished top of English cricket's first-class batting averages (qualification six completed innings) and where did his county finish in the final Britannic Assurance championship table?

OCTOBER

61. Which British boxer did Naseem Hamed defeat to win the WBO featherweight title in Cardiff?
62. Who was the only male member of the British three-day event equestrian team which won the Open European championship in Italy?
63. Which three golfers represented Scotland when they won the Alfred Dunhill Cup for the first time at St Andrews and which country did they beat in the final?
64. Which country was fined when a clay court for its home tie in the Davis Cup tennis competition was found to be too damp because of "unexplained overnight watering"?
65. Whom did Ernie Els, of South Africa, beat in the final of the Toyota World Match Play golf championship at Wentworth?
66. Whom did Mariaan de Swardt, of South Africa, knock out in the second round of the Brighton international women's tennis tournament?
67. Whom did England beat in the semi-final of the rugby league World Cup at Old Trafford and by whom were they beaten in the final at Wembley?

NOVEMBER

68. Which club knocked Liverpool out of the Uefa Cup?
69. Whom did Mark Regan replace in the England rugby union team to meet South Africa?
70. For which club did Jonathan Davies play his first game in rugby union after seven years in rugby league?
71. Which cricketer was described as the "frog in the blender"?
72. Six jockeys were each banned for seven days after they rode the wrong side of a blocked-off hurdle in the Orchard Portman Selling Handicap Hurdle. Where was the race held?
73. Who said "Being the manager of a touring team is rather like being in charge of a cemetery. Lots of people underneath you but no one listening"?
74. Who announced that, after acting as Cinderella's fairy godmother in a pantomime, she would restart training in a bid to compete in the Olympic Games at Atlanta next July?

C: This baseball player played in a record-breaking 2,131st consecutive game. Who is he?

DECEMBER

75. Which former Scottish rugby union captain, who had verbally abused a referee, failed to turn up for a disciplinary hearing because he said he was baby-sitting?
76. Which British swimmer, who originally retired in 1986, won the 800 metres freestyle title at the world short-course championships in Rio de Janeiro?
77. In the second Test against South Africa in Johannesburg, how many runs did Michael Atherton make in his undefeated second innings?
78. Against which German club was Paul Gascoigne sent off in a European Cup Champions' League match?
79. Which country provided its first player in the history of the rugby union Varsity match?
80. Which three other countries were drawn in the same group as England for the finals of the 1996 European football championship?

HOW TO ENTER THE QUIZ OF THE SPORTING YEAR

FILL IN your answers on the entry form and send it, with your name, address and daytime telephone number, to: Quiz of the Sporting Year, Sports Department, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN, to arrive by Friday, January 12, 1996. The prize will go to the sender of the first correct entry drawn from those received by the closing date. The Sports Editor's decision is final and correspondence will not be entered into. The winners and solutions will be published on Tuesday, January 16, 1996. The competition is not open to employees of News International, their relatives or agents.

1 ____ 2 ____ 3 ____ 4 ____ 5 ____ 6 ____ 7 ____ 8 ____ 9 ____ 10 ____ 11 ____ 12 ____ 13 ____ 14 ____ 15 ____ 16 ____ 17 ____ 18 ____ 19 ____ 20 ____ 21 ____ 22 ____ 23 ____ 24 ____ 25 ____ 26 ____ 27 ____

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South Africa batsman poised finally to fulfil potential

Cullinan puts matter over mind

SIMON WILDE
At the Test

GRAHAM MORRIS

Cullinan completes a run to win this round of his battle with Cork, his former Derbyshire team-mate

There was no doubt which was the finest individual performance at St George's Park, Port Elizabeth, yesterday. It came from Daryll Cullinan, whose unbeaten 83 pulled round the South African innings in invigorating fashion, although there are plenty of his acquaintances — one hesitates to call them friends — who will need more convincing than this that one of the game's most wayward talents has turned the corner.

Cullinan has talent all right but somewhere in the darker recesses of his mind there are processes at work that no one can fathom, least of all Cullinan himself, who is not strong on self-knowledge. These processes cause him to regularly undo all his good work, whether it be in his relations with other people or his craftsmanship out in the middle. Every so often he just says or does something silly.

When he was only 16, Cullinan scored his first century in the Currie Cup. In doing so he became the youngest batsman to score a hundred in a first-class match in South Africa, depriving a certain Graeme Pollock of the record.

At about the time he scored that century, Cullinan was brought over to England by Clive Rice, who arranged for him to play league cricket in Nottinghamshire. Rice had only seen one batsman as precocious as Cullinan and that was Barry Richards. Rice stuck his neck out and said so and ever since has found his judgement questioned.

Rice started to suspect something was not right when Cullinan went to the Trent Bridge nets and faced Eddie Hemmings. He looked awful, truly awful. His errors were fundamental ones. All these years later — Cullinan is now 28 — he still makes the same sort of mistakes, especially against spin bowlers.

Two years ago, Shane Warne made such a monkey out of Cullinan in Australia that the leg spinner was inconsolable when South Africa declined to pick him in the return series at home a few weeks later. Warne had never had such easy wickets as those Cullinan presented him with. Cullinan was even more seriously scarred and did not return to Test cricket until the Oval Test last year, when he made a brave 94 against Devon Malcolm at his most destructive.

"People have tried — we have all tried — to talk to him," Rice, who is now a national selector, said yesterday. "But he thinks sitting there and appearing to listen is enough. The trouble he has with other people is all part of his mental problem. He is not good at talking to people off the field. It seems the only place he can cope is in the middle where, let us face it, everyone but his partner is saying aggressive things to him."

As Rice talked there was nearly a classic Cullinan cock-up. He had just reached his half-century with a fine on-driven four against Illingworth and the time was right, surely, to regroup before going on to a big hundred. Instead, next ball, he padded up to the left-arm spinner, offering no semblance of a stroke. Narrowly, the leg-before appeal was turned down.

> 'The only place he can cope is in the middle'

Later, when Cork — who is an "acquaintance" of Cullinan's from Derbyshire last summer, when the South African was the county's overseas player — took the new ball, an interesting spat took place. Cullinan cut Cork for one four, on-drove him gloriously for another and looks were exchanged before Atherton wisely removed his bowler from the attack. Cullinan later played down the episode but there was no doubt that their relationship is a "warm" one.

Has Cullinan progressed since his near-glorious youth? Rice refused to ariswer the question but his pursed lips told their own tale. What about his Test record: one hundred, eight fifties and, after yesterday, just over 1,000 runs in 18 matches. "What good are fifties?" Rice asked. "That is only one tenth of what Lara has made in an innings."

Perhaps today Cullinan will finally fulfil his vast potential. There could be no better place to do so than Port Elizabeth, the home of Graeme Pollock. Yesterday was Cullinan's first Test at the ground and he played some shots of which Pollock himself would have been proud. But no natives are so rash as to make the comparison anymore.

Sri Lanka spinner called for throwing

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE Sri Lanka off spinner, Muttiah Muralitharan, was no-balled for throwing during the afternoon session of the second Test against Australia at Melbourne yesterday and has been advised to remodel his action by the International Cricket Council (ICC).

The Australian umpire, Darrell Hair, called Muralitharan, 23, seven times in the space of three overs. He was the first bowler called in a Test in Australia since Ian Meckiff 32 years ago. In the Brisbane match against South Africa, Col Egar called the fast bowler four times in his only over and Meckiff never played representative cricket again.

The new controversy to affect the Sri Lankans followed the recently-resolved ball tampering incident in the first Test at Perth when the ICC referee, Graham Dowling, of New Zealand, found them guilty of interfering with the match ball. The ICC subsequently overturned the verdict and, in effect, apologised for the manner in which the finding was reached.

Hair no-balled Muralitharan from the fourth and final balls of his fourth over, the second, fourth and sixth balls of his next over and again from the second and sixth balls of his sixth over.

Shortly before tea, Ranatunga, Srj Lanka's captain, recalled Muralitharan, to bowl two overs from the other end. He did so without incident and, in fact, was not called in the 12 overs he bowled from the end where Steve Dunne, of New Zealand, was standing.

Muralitharan dismissed Mark Waugh for 61 in the evening session, ending the day with one for 58 from 18 overs as Australia closed at 230 for four. David Boon, whose place was thought to be in danger after a series of low scores, is 93 not out.

Muralitharan had not previously been called in 59 first-class matches in Australia, England, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Zimbabwe and at home. But an ICC statement said umpires, including Hair, had expressed concerns over Muralitharan's action since 1993.

A bowler is said to have thrown the ball under law 24.2 (note a) if, in the opinion of either umpire, "the process of straightening the bowling arm, whether it be partial or complete, takes place during that part of the delivery swing which precedes the ball leaving the hand".

Muralitharan has an awkward bent-arm style, for which the Sri Lanka coach, Dav Whatmore, an Australian, has an explanation. "It is a defect from birth, he can't straighten his arm. When I took over (as coach) I filmed him from six different angles and some of them looked suspicious — but not alarming enough to make any modification."

Muralitharan will not bowl at Hair's end for the rest of the match. "We're in the middle of a Test series and we've got the World Cup coming up and it's hard for a person to change their action just like that," Whatmore said.

"We sincerely trust that the Sri Lanka Cricket Board of Control will work with this player to take whatever corrective action is necessary so that he can continue to represent his country," the ICC chief executive, David Richards, said in a statement released through the Australian Cricket Board.

"To that end, the ICC remains prepared to assist the achievement of this objective in any way that we can." Detailing its past concerns over Muralitharan's bowling action, dating back three years, the ICC defended Hair's ruling. "It is every umpire's duty to apply the laws of cricket fully and impartially and we stand in full support of those umpires who execute this responsibility to the best of their ability."

Muralitharan, whose action was later ruled illegal, is caught in the act of delivery at Melbourne yesterday

SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

M J Slater c Wickremasinghe b Vaas	62
*M A Taylor b Wickremasinghe	7
D C Boon not out	93
M E Waugh b Muralitharan	61
S R Waugh not out	2
Extras (lb 4, w 2, nb 3)	9
Total (3 wkts)	234

R T Ponting, †I A Healy, S K Warne, P R Reiffel, C J McDermott and G D McGrath to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-14, 2-116, 3-219.

BOWLING: Wickremasinghe 22-7-52-1; Vaas 22-8-35-1; Hathurusinghe 5-0-8-0; Muralitharan 18-3-58-1, Gurusinha 2-0-8-0, Silva 18-4-57-0; de Silva 3-0-12-0.

SRI LANKA: R S Mahanama, A P Gurusinha, U C Hathurusinghe, *A Ranatunga, P A de Silva, H P Tillekeratne, †R S Kaluwitharana, W P U J C Vaas, K J Silva, G P Wickremasinghe, M Muralitharan

Umpires: D Hair (Aus) and S Dunne (NZ).

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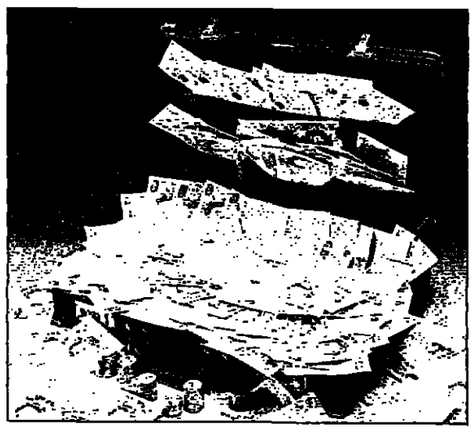

10,000 Lottery tickets to be won

The Times has entered 10,000 tickets in Saturday night's draw and is offering readers the chance to win them. The prizes will be allocated on the following basis:

One first prize of 5,000 £1 tickets

Five runners-up prizes of 1,000 £1 tickets

All the tickets have randomly generated numbers. The winners will be contacted before the draw and told how many lines they have won. *The Times* will hold the numbers on computer which will work out, as soon as the draw is made, if any are winners. If they are, the holders will be contacted that night and informed of their success.

The lottery competition runs all week and every day we will publish a different question. Today's question is:

Jesus's cousin was born six months before him. Was it:
a) St Thomas? b) John the Baptist? c) St Christopher?

Phone your answer on the number below, which will be open 24 hours a day until 3pm on Saturday.

All the correct answers to all five days' questions will go into the draw and winners will be randomly selected.

PHONE YOUR ANSWER ON: 0891 40 50 49

Calls cost 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p per minute at all other times

Hunt set to begin career as professional

BY PETER BRYAN

JEREMY HUNT, one of Britain's leading amateur road-racing cyclists, starts his professional career today when he meets his Benesto team captain, Miguel Indurain, five times the winner of the Tour de France and the present world time-trial champion, at a meeting in Biarritz, where riders will be told their racing programme for next year.

Hunt, 21, was recommended to Banesto after promising results in Europe in the past two years, in which he has shown ability both as a sprinter and climber. He was offered a three-year contract by the Spanish sponsors, but turned it down, preferring a two-year agreement.

His first race is likely to be the Tour of Majorca in February, but he is not expecting to be selected for the Tour de France next year.

Carl Sturgeon had his best result yesterday since returning to racing four months ago after a two-year lay-off. The Leicester rider, a former junior international mountain biker, won the Coventry RC 12 miles cyclo-cross at Kenilworth to beat Steve Douce, the former multi-discipline national professional champion, by 47sec, with Steve Knight third a further 4sec behind.

Sturgeon gained his victory with a daring display of descending on the 100-yard straight drop on every lap. He went clear with Douce three miles from the end, but his courageous riding on the downhill section put him into a winning lead.

Sayonara takes early lead

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

SAYONARA, the American maxi yacht, took an early lead in the Sydney to Hobart race yesterday after emerging from a dramatic tacking duel. The 78ft white-hulled sloop recovered from an ill-judged start to reach speeds of ten knots and round the first offshore buoy more than 40 seconds ahead of Brindabella, the 75ft Australian maxi, before breaking out a white spinnaker for the run south.

Thousands of people packed beaches, headlands and other vantage points, or crowded on to spectator craft, ranging from ferries to sea kayaks, to watch the 98-strong fleet set out in a 15-knot north-easterly wind.

Sayonara is the favourite to win the classic 630-mile race, traditionally one of the toughest ocean races in the world. Her owner, Larry Ellison, 51, the co-founder and chief executive of the Oracle Corporation, is on board with his friend, Rupert Murdoch; the chairman and chief executive of The News Corporation, parent company of *The Times*.

The first yachts are expected in Hobart before dawn on Friday and the maxis are aiming to beat the 20-year-old course record of two days 14 hours 36 minutes and 56 seconds. Among them is Fudge, at 85ft the largest ocean-racer in the world, which made the best start of the day on a port tack ahead of Brindabella, with Sayonara well behind.

Brindabella outmanoeuvred Sayonara early in the tacking duel but the powerful, state-of-the-art craft closed quickly, eventually breaking through on a starboard tack to clear the harbour first.

Fudge fell back to third when a fitting holding its recently-altered mainsail to the boom tore away, allowing its crew to use the sail only in a reefed position.

Murdoch, 64, an experienced yachtsman who competed in four Sydney-to-Hobart races in the 1960s, has his right index finger heavily bandaged after injuring it in a race on Thursday. He was on deck yesterday, conferring with Ellison, when Sayonara hit the floating dock as it left for the start line, scratching its hull.

North-easterly winds of between 10 and 15 knots are forecast down the New South Wales coast, which should provide favourable conditions for a good spinnaker run.

Scott makes big difference

BY NICHOLAS HARLING

NOT FOR nothing has Kenny Scott earned a reputation as the biggest enigma in English basketball. The 6ft 9in forward who has turned his back on the national team and infuriated club coaches in his time also happens to be one of the most talented players around.

For the moment, Billy Mims, the Leopards' coach, is happy to benefit from Scott's expertise as a shot-blocker and an inside man with scoring and rebounding abilities. "He is the one player we were missing," Karl Brown, his team-mate, said after Scott had announced his arrival with 19 points in the 92-80 victory over Manchester Giants in the Nynex Arena.

Released by London Towers in the summer after a knee operation, Scott was happy to answer Mims's call and put his recovery to the test with the capital's other Budweiser League title contenders. A little tentative at first, he made his impact in the later stages when the Giants rallied in a desperate attempt to prevent a second home defeat by the Leopards this season. "Kenny will make a big difference," Brown said.

Not that Scott deserved all the plaudits. With Brown double-teamed, Ronnie Baker had assumed most of the earlier scoring responsibility for the Leopards from the back court to finish as his team's top scorer, with 26 points.

Like the Giants, who have allowed the Leopards to leapfrog them in pursuit of the Towers and Sheffield Sharks, Birmingham Bullets have encountered something of a festive slump. Three days after being knocked out of the 7-Up Trophy by the Towers, the Bullets took on the other finalists, Worthing Bears, and appeared likely winners with a half-time lead of 49-43. Nigel Lloyd had scored 20 points and Michael Payne 14.

But without a single point from the pair thereafter, Colin Irish and Alan Cunningham were not slow to accept the invitation to lead the Bears to a 90-83 win, finishing with 32 and 28 points respectively.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Law lifts Queensland to emphatic victory

STUART LAW, the Queensland captain, scored 70 from 84 balls to help his team to complete an emphatic four-wicket victory over the West Indians in a limited-overs match in Brisbane yesterday. The West Indians made 206 for eight fromtheir 50 overs and Queensland replied with 207 for six to win with 2.5 overs to spare. The West Indians are still without a win since arriving in Australia in early December.

The out-of-form West Indian top order again struggled and it was left to Roger Harper to come to the rescue with an unbeaten 46. Richie Richardson, the captain, did, however, show signs of a return to form with an enterprising 37. Adam Dale, the Queesland swing bowler, took the first three wickets to fall in an unchanged ten-over spell, finishing with 3 for 31, and Law claimed 2 for 33.

Cardiff retain lead

ICE HOCKEY: Cardiff survived a gallant fightback to beat Nottingham 6-5 yesterday and retain their position at the top of the premier division. The Welsh side led 6-1 by the 34th minute with Steve Moria scoring a hat-trick. However, Panthers hit back with two goals at the end of the middle period and, by the 51st minute, had cut the deficit to one goal. Second-placed Sheffield Steelers recorded a 4-3 away win over Basingstoke Bison. Tony Hand scoring twice for the victors, who are now undefeated in ten games.

Landmarks for Smith

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: Emmitt Smith set a new National Football League record for rushing and touchdowns in a season last night as Dallas Cowboys eased to a 37-13 victory over Arizona Cardinals. Dallas's victory gave them a 12-4 record for the regular season and secured home advantage throughout the National Conference play-offs. Smith scored on a three-yard run for his 25th touchdown of the season, bettering the record set by John Riggins for the Washington Redskins in 1983.

Reg Stockhill

SOCCER: Reg Stockhill, who played in Arsenal's greatest pre-war team, has died from cancer in York City Hospital, aged 82. He scored York City's first Football League goal in 1929 before going on to play for Scarborough, Arsenal, Derby County and Luton. Stockhill made his Arsenal debut, along with Leslie Compton, against Huddersfield Town in 1932 and was part of the famous 1932-33 team which included Eddie Hapgood, Joe Hulme, David Jack, Alex James and Cliff Bastin.

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Barbarians seek shelter in new world order

Honourable travellers stumble at crossroads

David Hands on the reason why one of the most famous clubs in rugby could be left in the cold

In the future, contracts between rugby union players and their clubs or countries will be written ones. In the past, there was an unwritten contract which presupposed players would perform to the best of their ability and for no club has this been more significant than the Barbarians.

The *raison d'être* of the Barbarians is a commitment to attacking rugby while observing basic skills. At the same time, with due regard for the quality of player the Baa-baas were able to assemble, any opponent put out the strongest available XV in honour of a rare and highly-prized fixture.

Today, though, as the Barbarians assemble at Welford Road for their 78th meeting with Leicester, they are a club in crisis. Regardless of the fact that, just over a year ago, they beat the South Africans — who, eight months later, were crowned world champions — they are a club with a glorious past but an uncertain future.

They are acutely aware that they must adapt to the changing circumstances of the game: "I want the club to work out a strategy," Geoffrey Windsor-Lewis, the secretary, said. "We can't go on as we are, otherwise we won't be alive in two years' time. We have to work with all the clubs and we have to evolve."

That evolution is likely to take the Barbarians abroad on a more regular basis, carrying their theme of rugby for enjoyment where it will be appreciated. That they already have an obvious attraction is emphasised by their imitators in France, South Africa, New Zealand, Australia and elsewhere.

It has been suggested they become a summer club, performing when players are not tied to club contracts, but that would mean the renunciation of their traditional fixtures, of which today's with Leicester and those against touring teams are the most valued.

"We have to ask ourselves what people want from the Barbarians, what we are good at, and over the next two months, the club's committee will sit down and try to establish the answers," Windsor-Lewis said. There is every chance the Baa-baas will accept an invitation to play in Japan for the first time, in a game at Kobe, the city still recovering from the disastrous earthquake. "I think rugby people, players and ex-players, would be sad to see the demise of the club," Windsor-Lewis said. "The game would be the poorer if future generations didn't see the Baa-baas play."

But once players are legally tied to their clubs, the Barbarians will find difficulty raising properly representative teams. Since the onset of league systems it has not been easy and today's XV appears despite the unavailability of Irishmen and Scots, whose national squads are due to head for the United States and Italy within the next ten days. However, the loss of Jim Hay, of Hawick, has allowed the club to summon Brendan Reidy, a second Western Samoan, at hooker.

Even allowing for such problems, some happy marriages have been made — of such players as Iain Morrison, now retired from international rugby, and Alex King, a young man with his way to make; of overseas players such as David Lougheed, the scorer of two tries when Canada played England at Twickenham last year, and Rudolf Straeuli, the South African back-row forward who appeared against the Barbarians at Lansdowne Road last year but only as a brief replacement.

Ask the Leicester players which of the club's fixtures they are most anxious not to miss and Tony Russ, their director of rugby, admits, with a slightly-exasperated laugh, they will say the Baa-baas match.

"The game is central to the club and the city," he said as he balanced manpower in the middle of an eight-day programme which gave the league champions an away Pilkington Cup tie, this mid-week match with the Barbarians and a home league meeting with Sale.

Leicester are using their resources sensibly: significant players such as John Liley and John Wells sit out today but the inclusion of Chris Tarbuck in the back row scarcely detracts from the strength of the pack. Wayne Kilford will welcome a run at full back and there will be genuine curiosity from the coaching staff in seeing how Phil Delaney and James Overend blend in the centre.

The Leicester midfield has been fairly plain for some seasons, and the absence through injury of Stuart Potter, the England A centre, for most of this one has left it bare. It will be only Overend's second senior match since he joined from Otley but he has impressed the selectors of the England Under-21 side, for whom he has played against Ireland and Scotland this season. His joust with another promising young man, Leigh Davies, of Neath, should be worth watching.

LEICESTER: W Kilford; S Hackney, P Delaney, J Overend, R Underwood, J Harris, A Kardooni; G Rowntree, R Cockerill, D Garforth, C Tarbuck, M Johnson, M Poole, N Back, D Richards

BARBARIANS: J Thomas (Llanelli and Wales), D Lougheed (Toronto Welsh and Canada), L Davies (Neath), G Shiel (Melrose and Scotland), W Proctor (Llanelli and Wales); A King (Bristol University), A Gomarsall (Wasps), M Mika (Otago University and Western Samoa), B Reidy (Marist St Pats and Western Samoa), D Laperne (Dax), A Gibbs (Newbridge and Wales), R Berek (Dax), G Prosser (Pontypridd and Wales), I Morrison (London Scottish and Scotland), R Straeuli (Transvaal and South Africa).

Referee: D Bevan (Wales).

☐ Gary Armstrong, the Jed-Forest and Scotland scrum half, is expected to make his Courage Clubs Championship debut for Newcastle against Wakefield next week. After more than two weeks of negotiations, Armstrong has agreed a three-year contract worth £150,000.

BRIAN WILLIAMSON

Veivers, of St Helens, hauls down Haughton, of Wigan, during their one-sided encounter yesterday

Freezing conditions fail to inhibit players' goodwill

Northampton 29
Stirling County 21

BY JOHN HOPKINS

A 350-MILE journey by plane and road from the frozen north hardly prepared Stirling County for a ground where it had been -8C the night before. But whereas defeat was by 19 points in this same fixture 12 months ago, it was both closer and colder this year in a game reduced to 70 minutes.

Goodwill oozed from everyone and thus the desire to create a spectacle was easily achieved. Only once in 17 minutes did Northampton kick in attack and if there was one abiding memory from a clear but bitterly cold afternoon, it was of the speed at which both teams moved the ball around.

Ben Ward and Harvey Thorneycroft, the Northampton wings, continually brought each other into play while for Stirling County Alan Imire and Mark McKenzie looked lively and impish, and Matt McGrandles in the centre was elusive and fast and deservedly scored two tries.

There were nearly 3,500 spectators at this game, which says a lot for the popularity of the home team. It was pleasing for Ian McGeechan, Northampton's director of rugby, to take his place in front of the committee box and accept the plaudits for the way his team had performed against Bath in the Pilkington Cup three days earlier. "At least it proved that Bath are not the only team who can play decent rugby," McGeechan said.

Northampton's team that day bore no comparison in personnel to the XV fielded yesterday but Northampton's commitment to running rugby, to moving the ball quickly and to looking as though they enjoyed themselves was evident.

The man who demonstrated this best was Chris Johnson, formerly of Leicester. He was not a predatory flanker, or a renegade from the three-quarters anxious for work, but rather a hooker with a fine turn of speed and a desire to run with the ball that is exceptional even in these days. One of their best tries came after at least eight men — and it might have been more — had handled the ball.

That try, Northampton's third, took them to 19-0. In the next 20 minutes Stirling County closed to within three points, thanks in part to the brace of tries scored by McGrandles. Interestingly, both came after he had kicked ahead. That was close enough for Northampton. They regained enough possession to dominate the last minutes and score their fifth try of the game.

The spirit of the day and of the game was demonstrated at the final whistle. The Scottish side serenaded Northampton off the field with a brief but spirited rendering of *Jingle Bells*. It was an appropriate ending to what is known as a friendly game. There aren't many of those these days and this one certainly was.

SCORERS: Northampton: Tries: Hepher (2), Thorneycroft, Beales, Ward. Conversions: Hepher (2) Stirling County: Tries: McGrandles (2), Senior Conversions: McKenzie (3).

NORTHAMPTON: L Bott; B Ward, A Beales, N Law, H Thorneycroft, A Hepher, D Elkington, C Allen, C Johnson, M Lawe, J Wright, S Foale, G Walters, J Cassell, S Barnes. Wright replaced by P Pask (30min).

STIRLING COUNTY: B Edwards, R Lawe, J Wright, M McGrandles, D Senior; M McKenzie, A Imire; J Gibson, A Nielsen, B Robertson, R McKillop, G Douglas, M Norval, B Ireland, G Walker Ireland replaced by C Rae (25).

Referee: D Graff (East Midlands)

St Helens spoil seasonal party

Wigan 58
St Helens 4

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

ST HELENS, the advocates of a manufactured Christmas fixture with Wigan because of the move to a summer season, managed to render their last meaningful Boxing Day rugby league derby yesterday a fiasco.

The irony will hardly be lost on the Rugby Football League (RFL) board of directors. Earlier in the season, the RFL gave Oldham a £4,000 suspended fine for putting out a deliberately weakened side at Warrington. St Helens, though, brought a new meaning to the term under-strength by fielding just one regular first-team player, Steve Prescott, on this occasion. A reserve side was, naturally, pulverised.

There is little doubt St Helens had in mind their Regal Trophy semi-final against Warrington on Saturday and, if they are found guilty of field a weakened team, the RFL might consider a fine not dissimilar to the prize-money they will collect in that match.

In 100 years, Wigan had not beaten their greatest rivals so comprehensively, but neither had the most historic and traditional of derby encounters been so ruinously spoilt. No wonder Wigan took little satisfaction from a ten-try embarrassment.

Legitimate injuries to at least half a dozen St Helens players mysteriously spread, before the game, to virtually the entire side, which left a nervous young mix of Alliance and Academy players, with six making debuts. For many, yesterday's sorry affair might have inflicted more than just short-term damage.

Only Leeds now have a mathematical chance of catching Wigan in the Stones Championship. Wigan need only three points from their remaining four games to secure a seventh successive title and the trophy should, bar the ribbons, be theirs in perpetuity, if they add to a huge points difference at Warrington on New Year's Day.

David Howes, the chief executive of St Helens, said: "We have a lot of injuries and we are conscious of our hectic programme. Our priority must be the Regal Trophy, but we have medical evidence to back up why each of the players was absent."

In the meantime, what is usually the passionate apogee of the campaign was transformed into a depressingly one-sided affair, lacking any of the usual tension and fervour. Scott Quinnell, with four tries in a personal *tour de force*, supplied a little intoxication to warm a perishing afternoon, but it was sad to see a tradition ended so meagrely.

For all that, Wigan, perversely, did their best in the early stages to keep the game competitive by playing quite poorly. Strength and experience rapidly took over, however, after Robinson's opening try in the fifteenth minute.

St Helens had no answer to Quinnell. The Wales forward went straight through three tackles for his first touchdown and wrestled his way over shortly afterwards when a try appeared to be out of the question.

A 30-metre diagonal run by Booth brought the visitors' solitary score, whereupon the Wigan rip tide gathered speed. Haughton and Cassidy both crashed over twice from short range and Smyth raced unopposed down the right before Quinnell's two late strikes. The home side had Cowie sent off for a punch, which encapsulated a miserable afternoon.

SCORERS: Wigan: Tries: Quinnell (4), Haughton (2), Cassady (2), Robinson, Smyth Goals: Hall (5), Paul (4). St Helens: Try: Booth.

WIGAN: G Connolly (sub: A Craig, 73min), J Robinson, V Turgamala, K Radlinski, M Offiah, H Paul (sub: R Smyth, 40): S Edwards, N Cowie, M Hall, T O'Connor (sub: A Johnson, 40), S Quinnell, M Cassidy, S Haughton (sub: M Dermott, 60).

ST HELENS: D Arnold, M Riley, K O'Loughlin, A Haigh, S Prescott, P Wanng, P Veivers; A Leatham, G Cunningham, N Devine, P Anderson (sub: P Mathison, 30; sub: Anderson, 65), C Morley (sub: R Shiel, 40), S Booth.

Referee: S Cummings

Leeds stay in chase

LEEDS renewed their pursuit of second place in the Stones Championship by holding off a strong challenge by Castleford for a 28-16 victory at Headingley yesterday. Leeds are now four points behind Wigan, but the champions have a game in hand.

The home side thoroughly deserved their third successive league win, benefiting from the return of injured Garry Schofield, the England international.

Schofield made his experience count when introduced as a substitute midway through the second half, helping Leeds to turn a 10-8 half-time advantage into a decisive victory with three tries late in the game.

The other two matches in the Championship were postponed because of frozen pitches. The weather also claimed the remainder of the league programme, with four games in the first division, and five in the second division, all called off.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm) °C	Last snow
ANDORRA							
Soldeu	20	60	slush	varied	slush	rain 5	16/12
(Some bare patches appearing at lowest altitudes)							
AUSTRIA							
Obergurgl	65	85	good	heavy	fair	snow 3	26/12
(Mostly good skiing but still some worn patches)							
Söll	20	65	good	powder	closed	snow 7	26/12
(Excellent skiing with new snowfall; no queues)							
FRANCE							
Alpe d'Huez	30	100	fair	heavy	slush	snow 0	26/12
(New snow at altitude but lowest runs washed out by rain)							
Avoriaz	25	70	fair	heavy	slush	sleet 1	24/12
(Only four main runs open at the moment, long lift queues)							
Tignes	70	150	good	heavy	fair	snow 0	26/12
(High pistes good, lower sticky: lift queues not too bad)							
Val d'Isère	50	150	fair	heavy	slushy	cloud 7	25/12
(Heavy conditions at resort level, better at altitude)							
Val Thorens	45	100	good	varied	good	snow 1	26/12
(Great skiing, heavy snowfall, poor visibility)							
ITALY							
Cervinia	30	230	good	heavy	good	cloud 3	26/12
(More fresh snow, excellent conditions)							
SWITZERLAND							
Mürren	25	90	good	powder	open	snow 2	26/12
(New snow at all levels: prospects excellent)							
Verbier	50	120	good	powder	closed	snow 1	26/12
(Great skiing with new snow: avalanche danger)							
Wengen	30	35	good	powder	closed	snow 1	26/12
(Heavy snowfall has much improved conditions)							

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

THE TIMES
SNOWLINE
0891 333 568
24hr skiing information direct from the resorts in:
AUSTRIA • FRANCE • SWITZERLAND • ITALY
REST OF EUROPE • N. AMERICA/CANADA
SPAIN/ANDORRA • ROMANIA/BULGARIA
Or for a faxed report, dial:
0891 662 258
from a telephone linked to a fax machine
WEATHERLINE 0891 333 462
Comprehensive outlook in the skiing areas for the week ahead
The Ski Club of Great Britain 118 Eaton Square, London SW1W 9AF
SKI CLUB
Calls cost 50p/min cheap rate, 40p/min at all other times
SKI-CALL
Up-to-date information on all
Scottish ski resorts
0891 200 627

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL): Arizona 13 Dallas 37.

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
* Buffalo	10	6	0	.625	350	335
† Indianapolis	9	7	0	.563	331	316
† Miami	9	7	0	.563	328	332
New England	6	10	0	.375	294	377
NY Jets	3	13	0	.188	233	384
Central						
* Pittsburgh	11	5	0	.689	407	327
Cincinnati	7	9	0	.438	349	374
Houston	7	9	0	.438	348	324
Cleveland	5	11	0	.313	269	356
Jacksonville	4	12	0	.250	275	404
West						
* Kansas City	13	3	0	.813	356	241
† San Diego	8	7	0	.563	321	323
Seattle	8	8	0	.500	363	368
Denver	8	8	0	.500	388	345
Oakland	8	8	0	.500	348	332

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
* Dallas	12	4	0	.750	435	291
† Philadelphia	10	6	0	.615	318	338
Washington	6	10	0	.375	326	359
NY Giants	5	11	0	.313	300	340
Arizona	4	12	0	.250	275	422
Central						
* Green Bay	11	5	0	.688	404	314
† Detroit	10	6	0	.625	436	336
Chicago	9	7	0	.563	392	360
Minnesota	8	8	0	.500	412	385
Tampa Bay	7	9	0	.438	238	335
West						
* San Francisco	11	5	0	.688	457	258
† Atlanta	9	7	0	.563	362	348
St Louis	7	9	0	.438	309	418
Carolina	7	9	0	.438	289	325
New Orleans	7	9	0	.438	319	348

* division title † play-off place

PLAY-OFF FIXTURES: Saturday: Buffalo Bills v Miami Dolphins; Philadelphia Eagles v Detroit Lions. Sunday: Green Bay Packers v Atlanta Falcons; San Diego Chargers v Indianapolis Colts.

ATHLETICS

ROAD RACES: Bedford: Boxing Day Race (10 miles): Men: 1, S Wilson (Bexhill Racers) 53min 21sec; 2, P Sibbett (Bedford) 53:44; 3, G Spring (Bedford) 54:43. Veteran: P O'Dell (Bedford) 58:04. Women: 1, P Buckingham (Guernsey Island) 1:05:22; 2, N Hector (Ely) 1:57:25; 3, L Cook (Vauxhall) 1:07:40. Brighton: Preston Park Boxing Day Race (5.25 miles): Men: 1, K Howard (Bexhill Racers) 26:37; 2, M Howard (Bexhill Racers) 26:52; 3, E Kimber (Crawley) 29:08. Women: S Morley (Brighton and Hove) 33:06; 2, J Mulholland (Arena 80) 35:43. Road walk: 1, S Lightman (Surrey WC) 48:16; 2, D Stevens (Steyning) 49:56; 3, R Penfold (Steyning) 51.37. Chester: Boxing Day Race (4.3 miles): Men: 1, A Woods (Wirral) 23:20; 2, I Gimme (Newham and Essex Beagles) 23:51; 3, M Proudlove (unattached) 24:26. Veterans: J Fidler (Chester and Ellesmere Port) 25:05. Women: 1, J Boscoe (Wirral) 30:25; 2, H Griffiths (Wrexham) 30:27; 3, J Thom (Vale Royal) 30:53. Veteran over 40: A Woodrow (Vale Royal) 31:51. Clevedon: Boxing Day Race (4 miles). Men: 1, I Gillespie (Birchfield) 18:41 (course record); 2, N Noad (Bristol) 19:01; 3, M Hula (Shaftesbury Barnet) 19:02. Veteran: P Aitken (City of Bath) 21:33. Women: 1, A Whitcombe (Parkside Harrow) 22:14; 2, Z Marchant (City of Bath) 22:26; 3, E Sokell (Salford) 22:30. Northwood: Bartlett Boxing Day Races (5km). Men: 1, M Kelly 17:37; 2, M Field 17:39; 3, M Nicholls 18:01. Women: 1, M Ayling 17:26; 2, A Jeeves 19:27; 3, A Hilton 22:08. 10km: 1, M Waldram 32:45; 2, R O'Hara 32:52; 3, S Day 35:01. Women: 1, D Sanderson 35:41; 2, K Newman 39:29; 3, V Madison 43:07. Veteran: J Young 44:42. Whitley Bay: Pudding Run (3.2 miles): Men: 1, I Hudspith (Morpeth) 16:26. 2, S O'Gara (Wallsend) 17:31; 3, P Gardiner (Telford) 17:31. Veteran: A Jenkins (Morpeth) 17.58. Women: 1, K Wade (Blaydon) 19:42; 2, K Robinson (North Shields Poly) 20:51; 3, J Ferguson (Blaydon) 21:55. Veteran: J Coates (Jarrow and Hebburn) 22:21. Witham: Boxing Day Race (5 miles): Men: 1, D Laughlin (Chelmsford) 24:10; 2, D Gibbons (Stockport) 24:40; 3, J Mills (Chelmsford) 24:48. Team: 1, Chelmsford 24pts. Veteran: P Johnson (Thurrock) 27.14. Over 50: D Lacy (Colchester) 28.11. Women: 1, J Holden (Shaftesbury Barnet) 28:13; 2, L Branch (Chelmsford) 30.12; 3, R Dorrington (Abbey Runners) 31.02. Team: Springfield Striders. Veteran: D Glynn (unattached) 34:31. Over 45: H Powell (Holmes Place) 35:53.

FELL RACE: Stiperstones, Shropshire: Devils Chair Dash (3.5 miles, 850ft ascent): Men: 1, T Davies (Mercia) 23min 53secs; 2, A Davies (Mercia) 24:25; 3, H Matthews (Shrewsbury) 24:31. Over 40: E Davies (Mercia) 27:45. Over 50: B Morris (Wrekin) 28:05. Women: C James (Loughborough) 31.08.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): San Antonio 105 Phoenix 100, Orlando 92 Houston 90.

CRICKET

TOUR MATCH: Brisbane (50-over match): West Indians 206-8; Queensland 207-6 (S G Law 70). Queensland won by four wickets.

CYCLING

TIME-TRIAL: New Forest CC (Ringwood, 10 miles): 1, C Ball (VC Venta) 22min 19sec; 2, C Brooks (VC Camelot) 22:47; 3, R Horner (Fareham Wh) 22:50. Team: New Forest CC 1:15.21.

CYCLO-CROSS: Easy Glide Grand Prix (Kenilworth Common, 11.25 miles): 1, C Sturgeon (O Rangers) 57:35; 2, S Douce (Team Ambrosia) at 47sec; 3, S Knight (Halesowen A and CC) at 51sec. Merthyr CC (Cyfarthfa Park, Merthyr Tydfil, 10 miles): 1, J Winn (Extreme CC) 47:02; 2, M James (Dawes RT) at 30sec; 3, A Clarke (Port Talbot Wh) at 1:00. Middridge CRT (Gateshead International Stadium, 8 miles): 1, J Lambeth (Elite RT) 48:12; 2, C Murley (Derwentside CC) at 1:15; 3, J Scott (Derwentside CC) at 1.52. Crabwood CC (Southampton Leisure Centre, 10.5 miles): 1, J Norfolk (Extreme CC) 58:47; 2, I Taylor (Redhill CC) at 2:30; 3, A MacDonald (GS Europa) at 4:04.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Championship

Leeds	28 Castleford	16

Leeds: Tries: Cummins, Falcon, Golden 2, Hall. Goals: Cummins 4. Castleford: Tries: Coventry, Flynn, Harland. Goals: Crooks, Steadman. Att: 18,000

Wigan	58 St Helens	4

Wigan: Tries: Cassidy 2, Cunnell 4, Robinson, Haughton 2, Smyth. Goals: Hall 5, Paul 4. St Helens: Try: Booth. Att: 19,526.

POSTPONED: Bradford v Halifax, Oldham v Warrington

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wigan	16	14	0	2	667	242	28
Leeds	17	12	0	5	484	331	24
St Helens	16	10	0	6	592	424	20
Halifax	15	9	0	6	352	369	18
Sheffield	16	8	0	8	381	444	16
Warrington	15	7	0	8	368	345	14
Bradford	15	7	0	8	332	367	14
London B	17	7	0	10	394	455	14
Castleford	16	7	0	9	326	428	14
Oldham	15	4	0	11	268	456	8
Workington	16	2	0	14	245	550	4

FIRST DIVISION: Postponed: Batley v Dewsbury; Featherstone v Wakefield; Keighley v Rochdale, Widnes v Salford.

SECOND DIVISION: Postponed: Carlisle v Barrow; Chorley v Highfield, Hull Kingston Rovers v York; Hunslet v Bramley; Swinton v Leigh.

RUGBY UNION

Club matches

Camborne	18	Redruth	22
Llanelli	65	London Welsh	22
Maesteg	10	Bridgend	0
Northampton	29	Stirling County	21

CANCELLED: Aberavon v Cardiff Institute; Aspatria v Wigton; Bedford v Bedfordshire; Birmingham Solihull v Silhillians; Cardiff v Pontypridd, Cheltenham v Stroud, Exeter v President's XV, Gloucester v Lydney; High Wycombe v Chairman's XV; London Irish v Old Millhillians; Moseley v Coventry; Neath v Bonymaen, Newport v Bristol, Northern v Newcastle, Otley v Leeds, Penarth v Old Penarthians, Pontypool Utd v Pontypool; Preston Grasshoppers v Fylde; Sale v Broughton Park, Treorchy v Penygraig; West Hartlepool v Hartlepool Rovers; Wharfedale v North Ribblesdale

FOOTBALL

FA Carling Premiership

Manchester Utd v Newcastle Utd (6.0)
Bolton Wanderers v Leeds Utd (8.0) ....

ICIS LEAGUE: First division: Bognor Regis v Tooting and Mitcham Second division: Metropolitan Police v Hampton: Wans v Chesham.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Chelsea v Southampton (at Kingsonian FC, 7.0), Crystal Palace v Bristol City (at Dulwich Hamlet FC, 7.0): Millwall v Oxford Utd (2.0): Portsmouth v Ipswich (7.0): Queens Park Rangers v Charlton (at Harrow Borough FC, 7.0). Swindon v Norwich (2.0).

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Horsham YMCA v Mile Oak, Langney Sports v Stamco.

RUGBY UNION

Club match

Leicester v Barbarians (2.45) .....

SRU UNDER-21 INTER-DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP: Glasgow v Edinburgh (at Murrayfield, 7.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

BURTONWOOD BREWERY LANCASHIRE CUP: Final: Wigston v Saddleworth (at Warrington, 7.30)

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Sheffield v Humberside (7.0)

OTHER SPORT

DARTS: WDC championship (Circus Tavern, Purfleet)

SNOOKER: Dr Marlens: European League (Diamond Centre, Irthlingborough).

TODAY'S FIXTURES

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 007523 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF DATA SCIENCES LIMITED
-and-
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a petition was on 7 December 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the share capital of the above-named Company from £60,877,500 to £30,385,296.19 and the confirmation of the reduction of the share premium account of the above-named Company by £3,336,000.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL on Wednesday 17 January 1996.

Any creditor or shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of share capital and share premium account should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

DATED the 27th December 1995
Freshfields
65 Fleet Street
London EC4Y 1HS
Tel. 0171 936 4000
Ref. RDJ/MAB

PACIFIC GRAND PRIX LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of The Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I, Peter S Dunn FCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Latham Crossley & Davis, 7 Kenrick Place, London W1H 3FF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the Creditors on 14th December 1995.
DATED 14TH DECEMBER 1995
Peter S Dunn FCA Liquidator

No. 007421 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF INDEPENDENT RADIO GROUP PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 4th day of December 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the cancellation of the share premium account of the above-named company AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT the said Petition is listed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 24th day of January 1996. ANY creditor or shareholder of the said company desiring to oppose the making of an Order confirming the said cancellation of share premium account should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors upon payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated this 21st day of December 1995
Garrett & Co
21 Queen Street
LEEDS LS1 2TW
Ref: RBJB.JPW CAG
Tel. 0113 244 1954
Solicitors for the above-named company

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receiver
EBURY & EVESHAM SECURITIES LIMITED

Registered number: 02754954. Trading name: Raymond Bushell Estate Agents. Nature of Business: Estate Agency. Trade classification: 36. Date of appointment of administrative receiver: 19 December 1995. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Seto Investments Limited, Raymond Hocking, Administrative Receiver/office holder no 2322/011. Address: BDO Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA

WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRONICS LIMITED 1486979
WESTINGHOUSE POWER GENERATION LIMITED 2673844
WESTINGHOUSE UK SERVICES LIMITED 2320335
ORCHIDCHASE LIMITED 419100
WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC ENERGY SYSTEMS LIMITED 2341067
COMDATA HOLDINGS LIMITED 2316960
COMDATA INTERNATIONAL LIMITED 2348576
(ALL IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF THE ABOVE NAMED COMPANIES

On 21 December 1995 the above companies were placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Anthony Victor Lomas of Price Waterhouse was appointed liquidator by the shareholders.

The liquidator gives notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the companies must send details, in writing, of any claim against the companies to the liquidator, at the above address by 27 January 1996 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.

The companies are able to pay all their known creditors in full.

Date 21 December 1995
A V Lomas, Liquidator

CMR SYSTEMS (NI) LIMITED (IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
Company number: NI16720
NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF CMR SYSTEMS (NI) LIMITED

On 21 December 1995 the company was placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Anthony Victor Lomas of Price Waterhouse was appointed liquidator by the shareholders.

The liquidator gives notice under the provisions of Article 95 of the Insolvency (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidator, at No.1 London Bridge London SE1 9QL by 27 January 1996 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.

The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full. Dated 21st December 1995
A V Lomas, Liquidator

SECTION 293 OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
JOSEPHINE ARROW
IN BANKRUPTCY
BRIAN JOHN ARROW (DECEASED) IN BANKRUPTCY

TAKE NOTICE THAT I, Nigel John Hamilton-Smith of Morton Thornton & Co, Torrington House, 47 Holywell Hill, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 1HD was appointed to act as Trustee in Bankruptcy of the above-named individuals on 10 November 1995. DATED this 18th day of December 1995 N J HAMILTON-SMITH TRUSTEE IN BANKRUPTCY

KIDDER PEABODY GLOBAL CAPITAL (LONDON) LTD
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

On 19th December 1995 the company was placed into members' voluntary liquidation and Michael J C Oldham of Latham Crossley & Davis, 7 Kenrick Place, London W1H 3FF, was appointed liquidator by the shareholders.

The liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidator, at the above address by 31st January 1996 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.

The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full. Dated 19th December 1995
M J C Oldham, Liquidator

COMPANY NOTICES

QUEBEC CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY
4% FIRST MORTGAGE DEBENTURE STOCK

In preparation for the payment of the half yearly interest due February 1 1996 on the above stock, the transfer books will be closed at 3.30 p.m. on January 12 1996 and will be re-opened on January 22 1996.
D. R. Keast
Assistant Secretary
62-65 Trafalgar Square
London, WC2N 5DY.
December 27 1995

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: H S Richards Bequest
Scheme to provide for Application of Income and Appointing Trustee
Reference hOT/306092/1/CDCLan1 9286/1

The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity A copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Albans House, 57-60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX quoting the reference above.

CHARITY COMMISSION
Society of the Sacred Mission
Ref AR/15632/CDCT)
Miss M M Winters First Trust
Ref JAD/15887/CDCT)

The Commissioners propose to make Schemes for these charities Copies of the drafts may be seen at the offices of Freeman & Son, Keeley House, 22/30 Keeley road, Croydon, or can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to Woodfield House, Tangier, Taunton, Somerset TA1 4BL, quoting the above references). Comments or representations can be made to the Commissioners within one month from today.

The players' weekly and overall scores and their values if you are considering the transfer option

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
10101	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	5.00	-2	-20
10102	B Mimms	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0	-1
10201	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00	-5	-2
10301	M Crossley	Nottingham Forest	2.50	-6	-24
10302	T Wright	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	0
10401	D James	Liverpool	3.50	-1	+18
10402	A Warner	Liverpool	0.25	0	0
10501	J Lukic	Leeds United	3.00	0	-11
10502	M Beeney	Leeds United	0.75	-1	-1
10601	P Srnicek	Newcastle United	3.00	-1	+3
10602	M Hooper	Newcastle United	1.00	0	0
10603	S Hislop	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+4
10701	I Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	-3	0
10702	E Thorstvedt	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	0	0
10801	A Roberts	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0	-7
10802	S Dykstra	Queens Park Rangers	1.00	0	0
10803	J Sommer	Queens Park Rangers	1.00	+5	-14
10901	H Segers	Wimbledon	1.50	0	0
10902	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
10903	P Heald	Wimbledon	1.50	-1	-38
11001	B Grobbelaar	Southampton	1.50	0	0
11002	D Beasant	Southampton	0.75	-3	-17
11101	D Kharine	Chelsea	2.50	+5	+16
11102	K Hitchcock	Chelsea	1.00	0	0
11201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	-5	+25
11202	V Bartram	Arsenal	0.50	0	0
11301	K Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	-3	-23
11302	C Woods	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	0
11401	L Miklosko	West Ham United	2.50	-7	-15
11402	L Sealey	West Ham United	0.50	0	0
11501	N Southall	Everton	2.50	-3	+3
11502	J Kearton	Everton	0.75	0	0
11601	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	-1	-16
11602	J Gould	Coventry City	0.75	0	0
11603	J Filan	Coventry City	1.50	0	-35
11701	A Coton	Manchester City	2.50	0	0
11702	A Dibble	Manchester City	2.50	0	0
11703	E Immel	Manchester City	2.00	-2	-13
11801	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	2.50	-2	+14
11802	N Spink	Aston Villa	1.00	0	-1
11901	A Miller	Middlesbrough	2.00	0	+3
11902	G Walsh	Middlesbrough	0.75	-3	+15
12001	K Branagan	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	-3	-49
12002	A Davison	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0	0

FULL BACKS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
20101	H Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0	+3
20102	G Le Saux	Blackburn Rovers	4.50	0	+3
20103	J Kenna	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0	+12
20201	D Irwin	Manchester United	4.50	-2	+9
20202	P Parker	Manchester United	2.50	-2	+4
20203	G Neville	Manchester United	2.50	-2	-3
20204	P Neville	Manchester United	0.75	0	+4
20301	S Pearce	Nottingham Forest	4.50	-3	+5
20302	D Lyttle	Nottingham Forest	3.00	-2	+3
20303	A Haaland	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	-9
20401	R Jones	Liverpool	3.00	0	+24
20402	S Bjornebye	Liverpool	3.00	0	+4
20403	S Harkness	Liverpool	0.75	0	+26
20501	T Dorigo	Leeds United	3.50	0	+4
20502	G Kelly	Leeds United	3.00	0	+6
20503	N Worthington	Leeds United	1.50	0	-1
20601	J Beresford	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+14
20602	M Hottiger	Newcastle United	3.00	0	0
20603	W Barton	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+20
20701	D Austin	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+4
20702	J Edinburgh	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	-2	-5
20703	S Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	-1	+17
20704	D Kerslake	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	0	0
20705	C Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	-1	+3
20801	D Bardsley	Queens Park Rangers	2.00	+4	-1
20802	R Brevett	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	+4	0
20803	N Zelic	Queens Park Rangers	2.50	0	-3
20901	A Kimble	Wimbledon	2.50	0	-2
20902	G Elkins	Wimbledon	1.50	0	-8
20903	K Cunningham	Wimbledon	1.50	0	-11
20904	R Joseph	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
21001	J Dodd	Southampton	1.50	-1	+8
21002	F Benali	Southampton	1.00	0	+5
21003	S Charlton	Southampton	1.00	-1	+2
21101	S Clarke	Chelsea	1.50	+4	+7
21102	S Minto	Chelsea	1.50	0	+3
21103	G Hall	Chelsea	0.50	0	+9
21104	A Myers	Chelsea	0.50	+4	+17
21105	T Phelan	Chelsea	1.50	0	0
21106	D Petrescu	Chelsea	2.50	+4	+14
21201	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00	-2	+30
21202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	-2	+29
21203	S Morrow	Arsenal	1.50	0	0
21302	I Nolan	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	-3	+1
21303	P Atherton	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	-1	-4
21401	J Dicks	West Ham United	3.50	-1	0
21402	T Breacker	West Ham United	3.00	-3	-12
21403	K Brown	West Ham United	0.75	0	0
21404	K Rowland	West Ham United	0.75	-1	+9
21501	G Ablett	Everton	2.50	0	+10
21502	E Barrett	Everton	2.50	0	+4
21503	M Jackson	Everton	1.50	-1	+13
21504	P Holmes	Everton	0.50	0	-2
21601	D Burrows	Coventry City	1.50	0	0
21602	A Pickering	Coventry City	1.00	-1	-5
21603	S Morgan	Coventry City	0.75	0	0
21604	M Hall	Coventry City	0.75	0	-19
21702	R Edghill	Manchester City	1.50	0	-1
21703	D Brightwell	Manchester City	0.75	0	0
21704	J Foster	Manchester City	0.75	0	-1
21801	G Charles	Aston Villa	2.50	0	+22
21802	S Staunton	Aston Villa	4.50	0	+3
21803	A Wright	Aston Villa	2.50	-1	+21
21804	P King	Aston Villa	0.50	0	0
21805	B Small	Aston Villa	0.50	0	0
21901	C Blackmore	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	0
21902	N Cox	Middlesbrough	1.00	+1	+27
21903	C Morris	Middlesbrough	0.75	+2	+26
21904	C Fleming	Middlesbrough	0.50	0	0
22001	G Bergsson	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	+2	-15
22002	S Green	Bolton Wanderers	0.25	+1	-11
22003	J Philips	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	-1	-16
22004	A Todd	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	-1	-4
22005	S McAnespie	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0	+1

CENTRAL DEFENDERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
30101	C Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	4.50	-1	+11
30102	I Pearce	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0	+3
30103	N Marker	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0	-4
30104	A Reed	Blackburn Rovers	0.75	0	0
30105	C Coleman	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	0
30201	S Bruce	Manchester United	4.50	-2	+10
30202	G Pallister	Manchester United	4.50	0	+17
30203	D May	Manchester United	1.50	0	-2
30301	C Cooper	Nottingham Forest	3.50	-2	+10
30302	S Chettle	Nottingham Forest	3.00	-2	-2
30401	P Babb	Liverpool	3.00	0	+17
30402	N Ruddock	Liverpool	3.50	0	+21
30403	J Scales	Liverpool	3.50	0	+5
30404	M Wright	Liverpool	1.00	-2	+22
30405	D Matteo	Liverpool	0.75	0	+4
30501	D Wetherall	Leeds United	3.50	0	+8
30502	C Palmer	Leeds United	3.00	0	+6
30503	J Pemberton	Leeds United	1.50	0	-1
30505	P Beesley	Leeds United	1.00	0	+1
30506	R Jobson	Leeds United	1.50	0	0
30601	P Albert	Newcastle United	4.00	0	+4
30602	S Howey	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+22
30603	D Peacock	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+19
30701	G Mabbutt	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	-1	+13
30702	C Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	-2	+11
30703	S Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.75	-1	-2
30704	K Scott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.75	0	0
30705	J Cundy	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
30801	D Maddix	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0	-7
30802	S Yates	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	+3	-2
30803	A McDonald	Queens Park Rangers	2.00	+3	+4
30805	K Ready	Queens Park Rangers	0.75	0	-6
30901	A Reeves	Wimbledon	2.50	0	-1
30902	A Thorn	Wimbledon	0.75	0	-4
30903	S Fitzgerald	Wimbledon	0.75	0	-8
30904	C Perry	Wimbledon	1.00	0	-16
30905	A Pearce	Wimbledon	2.50	0	-2
31001	K Monkou	Southampton	1.50	-1	+1
31002	A Neilson	Southampton	1.50	-1	+6
31003	R Hall	Southampton	1.50	-4	0
31101	E Johnsen	Chelsea	1.50	0	+14
31102	J Kjeldbjerg	Chelsea	1.50	0	0
31103	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	0	+3
31104	D Lee	Chelsea	0.75	+4	+18
31201	T Adams	Arsenal	4.50	0	+26
31202	S Bould	Arsenal	3.00	0	+24
31203	M Keown	Arsenal	1.50	-2	+19
31204	A Linighan	Arsenal	1.50	-2	-2
31301	D Walker	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	-1	+4
31401	S Potts	West Ham United	2.50	-4	+5
31402	M Rieper	West Ham United	2.50	-3	+3
31403	A Martin	West Ham United	1.00	0	+21
31405	A Whitbread	West Ham United	0.50	0	0
31501	D Unsworth	Everton	2.50	-1	+15
31502	D Watson	Everton	2.50	-1	+14
31503	C Short	Everton	2.50	-2	+7
31602	D Rennie	Coventry City	0.75	0	-7
31603	D Busst	Coventry City	0.75	+3	+4
31604	B Borrows	Coventry City	1.50	0	-9
31605	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	0	-14
31701	K Curle	Manchester City	1.50	-1	+2
31702	A Kernaghan	Manchester City	1.00	0	-1
31703	M Vonk	Manchester City	1.00	0	0
31704	K Symons	Manchester City	1.50	0	+5
31801	U Ehiogu	Aston Villa	2.50	0	+20
31802	P McGrath	Aston Villa	1.50	0	+11
31804	C Tiler	Aston Villa	0.75	0	+1
31901	N Pearson	Middlesbrough	0.75	-1	+20
31902	S Vickers	Middlesbrough	0.75	-1	+29
31903	P Whelan	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	-3
31904	D Whyte	Middlesbrough	0.75	-1	+15
32001	A Stubbs	Bolton Wanderers	1.50	0	-1
32002	C Fairclough	Bolton Wanderers	1.50	-1	-17
32003	S Coleman	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0	0
32004	G Taggart	Bolton Wanderers	1.50	-2	-9
32005	G Strong	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0	0

Gillespie would like to make sweeping changes to his ITF selections, including his manager, Ron Atkinson

Gillespie's plans fall flat

Gary Gillespie, a Coventry City central defender, makes his ITF selections

MY PREDICTIONS and selections at the start of the season have not done much good. I was relying on Alan Stubbs to go to Blackburn or Arsenal, but he has stayed with Bolton which has not helped my cause; I banked on Andy Cole scoring lots of goals which he has not; Tony Yeboah had a great start, but the goals have since dried up, and Neil Ruddock has missed a few games. Oh, and can I change my manager, please?

I went for two prolific goalscorers and a solid back four who could score the odd goal or two. The midfield was not particularly important at first, but I think that is an area that I should strengthen. I would like to include Steve McManaman and everyone would like Eric Cantona in their side, but that means having unlimited money to spend.

The money was the hardest part. When you think of all the players you want in your side then start adding up the cost, you have to change your plans. Fitting everybody in for £35 million is the biggest difficulty, especially when you have spent so much on strikers.

Looking at it now, I think it is better to go for defenders who can score. It is surprising the way the game works out. When you look at the teams that are doing well and scoring points, you would never believe it given their line-up, but I suppose this is called fantasy football.

Andy Cole's goal drought has not done me any favours, but I am sure he will bang in a barrow-load before long. I remember Kenny Dalglish going through a much worse spell than Cole, and once he gets that first goal he will be back on course. It is not as if he is playing for a bad team — Manchester United will always create chances and he is still getting into scoring positions.

It does not take much to change the course of a season. At Coventry I think the 5-0 win over Blackburn was a very important result for us. Judging by that match I think we should always play on a frozen pitch with a red ball. Interactive Team Football (ITF) on ice — that would suit us just fine.

What we at Coventry have to start doing is winning our home games. There are teams as bad as us and worse and, with three points for a win, a couple of good results can lift us out of the mire. But the lads are still bubbly and there is a lot of water to pass under a lot of bridges before it is all over.

The Christmas and new year period is vitally important for us. We are playing the teams at the bottom of the table — Bolton Wanderers, West Ham United and Southampton — and we must pick up points. It means a lot of hard work, but Ronnie Moran always used to say to us at Liverpool "your Christmas falls sometime in June when you are lying on a beach somewhere". Come Christmas morning, we are in training.

Most of my points have come from Tony Yeboah, but that was at the beginning of the season. Every week you would turn on the telly and Yeboah would score another classic goal from 35 or 40 yards. Since then Leeds have been going through a sticky patch. I also did not realise that he could be away for a month playing in the African nations' Cup.

GILLESPIE'S TEAM

Goalkeeper:	D James	(Liverpool)	£3.5m
Full backs:	G Neville	(Man United)	£2.5m
	G Kelly	(Leeds United)	£3m
Centre backs:	N Ruddock	(Liverpool)	£3.5m
	A Stubbs	(Bolton)	£1.5m
Midfielders:	N Summerbee	(Man City)	£1.5m
	M Pembridge	(Sheff Wed)	£1.5m
	R Slater	(West Ham)	£1m
	M Holmes	(Blackburn)	£1m
Strikers:	A Cole	(Man United)	£7m
	T Yeboah	(Leeds United)	£7.5m
Manager:	R Atkinson	(Coventry)	£1.5m

MIDFIELD PLAYERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
40102	D Batty	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	+1	+20
40103	J Wilcox	Blackburn Rovers	5.00	0	0
40104	T Sherwood	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	+3	+23
40105	S Ripley	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	+19
40107	P Warhurst	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+1
40109	M Holmes	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0	+5
40110	L Bohinen	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	+1	+25
40111	W McKinlay	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	+1	+2
40112	G Fenton	Blackburn Rovers	0.75	+1	+1
40201	R Giggs	Manchester United	5.50	0	+26
40202	R Keane	Manchester United	2.50	+1	+9
40203	L Sharpe	Manchester United	3.00	0	+15
40205	N Butt	Manchester United	2.00	0	+16
40206	D Beckham	Manchester United	0.75	0	+24
40207	S Davies	Manchester United	0.75	0	+1
40302	C Bart-Williams	Nottingham Forest	3.00	+2	+13
40303	I Woan	Nottingham Forest	3.00	+4	+22
40304	S Stone	Nottingham Forest	4.00	+2	+26
40305	D Phillips	Nottingham Forest	2.00	+2	+9
40306	S Gemmill	Nottingham Forest	2.00	+1	+13
40307	K Black	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	0
40401	S McManaman	Liverpool	6.50	+1	+31
40402	J Redknapp	Liverpool	2.50	0	+21
40403	J Barnes	Liverpool	3.00	+1	+28
40404	P Stewart	Liverpool	1.50	0	0
40405	M Thomas	Liverpool	1.50	+1	+3
40406	M Walters	Liverpool	1.50	0	0
40407	N Clough	Liverpool	1.50	0	+2
40409	M Kennedy	Liverpool	2.00	0	+1
40410	J Molby	Liverpool	1.50	0	0
40411	J McAteer	Liverpool	4.00	+1	+14
40501	G McAllister	Leeds United	4.00	+3	+29
40502	G Speed	Leeds United	4.00	+1	+21
40503	R Wallace	Leeds United	2.50	0	+9
40504	D White	Leeds United	1.50	0	+5
40505	L Radebe	Leeds United	0.75	0	0
40506	M Tinkler	Leeds United	0.50	0	+3
40507	A Couzens	Leeds United	1.00	0	+1
40601	R Lee	Newcastle United	4.50	+5	+38
40603	D Ginola	Newcastle United	4.50	+2	+25
40604	K Gillespie	Newcastle United	4.00	+1	+28
40605	L Clark	Newcastle United	1.50	+1	+22
40607	S Watson	Newcastle United	1.50	0	+6
40608	C Holland	Newcastle United	0.75	0	0
40609	R Elliott	Newcastle United	0.75	0	0
40701	D Anderton	Tottenham Hotspur	6.50	0	+3
40702	D Howells	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	+1	+23
40703	J Dozzell	Tottenham Hotspur	0.75	0	+14
40704	D Caskey	Tottenham Hotspur	0.75	0	0
40705	G McMahon	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	+6
40706	I Dumitrescu	Tottenham Hotspur	4.00	0	+3
40707	R Fox	Tottenham Hotspur	6.00	+1	+23
40801	S Barker	Queens Park Rangers	2.50	+1	+18
40802	I Holloway	Queens Park Rangers	2.50	0	+12
40803	A Impey	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	+2	+23
40805	T Sinclair	Queens Park Rangers	3.00	+2	+23
40807	S Osborne	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0	+9
40808	G Goodridge	Queens Park Rangers	0.75	0	0
40901	V Jones	Wimbledon	2.00	0	+9
40902	R Earle	Wimbledon	2.50	+3	+28
40903	M Gayle	Wimbledon	1.50	0	+12
40904	O Leonhardsen	Wimbledon	2.50	+1	+20
40905	N Ardley	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
40906	P Fear	Wimbledon	0.75	0	+3
41001	J Magilton	Southampton	3.00	+3	+25
41002	N Maddison	Southampton	2.00	+1	+14
41003	N Heaney	Southampton	2.50	+3	+8
41005	D Hughes	Southampton	0.75	0	+6
41006	T Widdrington	Southampton	1.00	+1	+16
41007	B Venison	Southampton	1.50	0	+8
41101	D Wise	Chelsea	5.00	0	+29
41102	R Gullitt	Chelsea	4.00	+2	+19
41103	G Peacock	Chelsea	3.00	+4	+16
41104	D Rocastle	Chelsea	1.50	0	+1
41105	N Spackman	Chelsea	0.75	0	+7
41106	C Burley	Chelsea	1.00	0	+13
41108	E Newton	Chelsea	0.75	+1	+20
41201	G Helder	Arsenal	4.00	+1	+16
41202	P Merson	Arsenal	4.00	+1	+30
41204	R Parlour	Arsenal	2.00	+1	+12
41205	E McGoldrick	Arsenal	1.00	0	0
41206	D Hillier	Arsenal	1.00	0	+2
41207	J Jensen	Arsenal	1.00	+1	+7
41208	D Platt	Arsenal	4.50	+1	+21
41301	J Sheridan	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	+7
41302	A Sinton	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	0	+7
41303	C Waddle	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	+1	+21
41304	G Hyde	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	+9
41305	K Ingesson	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+5
41306	R Jones	Sheffield Wednesday	0.75	0	0
41307	M Williams	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0	+2
41308	L Briscoe	Sheffield Wednesday	0.75	+1	+8
41309	M Pembridge	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+18
41401	J Moncur	West Ham United	3.00	+1	+11
41402	D Hutchison	West Ham United	5.00	0	+11
41404	M Allen	West Ham United	2.00	0	+4
41405	I Bishop	West Ham United	1.50	+1	+24
41406	D Gordon	West Ham United	1.00	0	0
41409	R Slater	West Ham United	1.00	0	+14
41410	S Lazarides	West Ham United	1.00	0	+2
41411	M Hughes	West Ham United	2.00	+1	+15
41412	D Williamson	West Ham United	1.00	+1	+6
41501	A Hinchcliffe	Everton	5.00	0	+12
41502	J Ebbrell	Everton	1.50	+1	+12
41503	A Limpar	Everton	2.50	+1	+22
41504	B Horne	Everton	1.50	0	+8
41505	V Samways	Everton	1.50	0	+5
41506	J Parkinson	Everton	1.00	0	+20
41508	A Grant	Everton	0.50	0	+2
41509	A Kanchelskis	Everton	6.00	+1	+24
41601	P Cook	Coventry City	2.00	0	+2
41602	K Richardson	Coventry City	1.50	+1	+14
41603	G Strachan	Coventry City	1.50	0	+2
41607	P Telfer	Coventry City	1.50	+1	+21
41608	M Isaias	Coventry City	3.00	0	+9
41609	C Batista	Coventry City	1.00	0	0
41610	J Salako	Coventry City	2.50	+1	+22
41701	G Flitcroft	Manchester City	2.50	0	+10
41702	P Beagrie	Manchester City	3.00	0	+3
41703	S Lomas	Manchester City	1.50	+1	+18
41704	I Brightwell	Manchester City	1.50	+2	+11
41706	N Summerbee	Manchester City	1.50	+2	+21
41707	G Kinkladze	Manchester City	1.50	+2	+26
41801	A Townsend	Aston Villa	2.00	+1	+13
41802	I Taylor	Aston Villa	2.00	+1	+25
41803	G Southgate	Aston Villa	2.00	+1	+23
41805	F Carr	Aston Villa	0.50	0	0
41806	M Draper	Aston Villa	2.50	0	+28
41901	C Hignett	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	+25
41902	A Moore	Middlesbrough	2.00	0	0
41903	J Moreno	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	+1
41904	R Mustoe	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	+14
41905	J Pollock	Middlesbrough	2.00	+1	+19
41906	B Robson	Middlesbrough	1.50	+1	+2
41907	Juninho	Middlesbrough	5.00	0	+9
42002	D Lee	Bolton Wanderers	2.50	0	+6
42003	A Thompson	Bolton Wanderers	2.50	0	+13
42004	R Sneekes	Bolton Wanderers	1.50	+1	+6
42005	M Patterson	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0	+8
42007	W Burnett	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0	0
42008	S Sellars	Bolton Wanderers	2.50	+1	+8
42009	S Curcic	Bolton Wanderers	1.50	+1	+1

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
50101	A Shearer	Blackburn Rovers	10.00	+1	+53
50102	C Sutton	Blackburn Rovers	7.00	0	+7
50103	M Newell	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	+15
50104	K Gallacher	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+1
50105	N Goodm'dsson	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	0
50201	E Cantona	Manchester United	7.50	+1	+18
50202	A Cole	Manchester United	7.00	+3	+22
50203	B McClair	Manchester United	3.00	+1	+15
50204	P Scholes	Manchester United	2.50	0	+28
50301	B Roy	Nottingham Forest	6.00	0	+21
50302	K Campbell	Nottingham Forest	2.50	+4	+9
50303	J Lee	Nottingham Forest	1.50	+2	+22
50304	G Bull	Nottingham Forest	0.75	0	0
50305	A Silenzi	Nottingham Forest	3.50	0	+1
50401	R Fowler	Liverpool	8.00	+7	+48
50402	S Collymore	Liverpool	7.50	+1	+19
50403	I Rush	Liverpool	3.00	0	+15
50501	A Yeboah	Leeds United	7.50	+3	+38
50502	B Deane	Leeds United	2.50	+2	+18
50503	P Masinga	Leeds United	1.50	0	+1
50506	T Brolin	Leeds United	5.00	+1	+6
50601	L Ferdinand	Newcastle United	8.00	+1	+52
50602	P Beardsley	Newcastle United	5.00	+1	+22
50603	P Kitson	Newcastle United	2.50	0	+2
50604	M Allen	Newcastle United	0.50	0	0
50605	D Huckerby	Newcastle United	0.50	0	0
50701	E Sheringham	Tottenham Hotspur	6.00	+3	+41
50702	C Armstrong	Tottenham Hotspur	4.00	+3	+24
50704	R Rosenthal	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	+1	+19
50801	K Gallen	Queens Park Rangers	4.50	+3	+14
50802	B Allen	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	-1	-2
50803	D Dichio	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0	+19
50805	M Hateley	Queens Park Rangers	2.00	+1	+3
50901	D Holdsworth	Wimbledon	4.00	+1	+23
50902	J Goodman	Wimbledon	1.50	+1	+14
50903	M Harford	Wimbledon	1.00	+1	+8
50904	G Blissett	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
50905	A Clarke	Wimbledon	0.75	0	+2
50906	E Ekoku	Wimbledon	2.50	+1	+14
50907	J Euell	Wimbledon	1.50	0	0
51001	M Le Tissier	Southampton	8.00	0	+17
51002	N Shipperley	Southampton	2.50	+1	+25
51003	G Watson	Southampton	2.00	0	+14
51004	C Maskell	Southampton	0.75	0	0
51101	M Hughes	Chelsea	4.00	0	+21
51102	M Stein	Chelsea	2.50	0	+6
51103	J Spencer	Chelsea	2.50	+1	+10
51104	P Furlong	Chelsea	2.50	0	+4
51201	I Wright	Arsenal	7.50	+3	+26
51202	D Bergkamp	Arsenal	7.50	0	+25
51203	J Hartson	Arsenal	4.00	0	+8
51204	C Kiwomya	Arsenal	1.50	0	0
51206	P Dickov	Arsenal	0.75	0	+3
51301	D Hirst	Sheffield Wednesday	4.00	+5	+28
51302	M Bright	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	+1	+27
51303	G Whittingham	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	+1	+15
51304	O Donaldson	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	+3
51305	M Degryse	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00	+1	+21
51401	T Cottee	West Ham United	4.50	+3	+28
51403	M Boogers	West Ham United	2.00	0	-3
51404	I Dowie	West Ham United	0.75	+1	+17
51501	D Ferguson	Everton	6.00	0	+1
51502	D Amokachi	Everton	2.00	+1	+17
51503	P Rideout	Everton	3.00	+2	+24
51504	G Stuart	Everton	2.00	+1	+19
51601	D Dublin	Coventry City	4.50	0	+34
51602	P Ndlovu	Coventry City	4.00	0	+19
51605	N Lamptey	Coventry City	1.00	0	+3
51606	N Whelan	Coventry City	1.50	+3	+6
51701	U Rosler	Manchester City	5.50	+4	+20
51702	N Quinn	Manchester City	4.00	+2	+11
51705	G Creaney	Manchester City	2.50	+1	+9
51801	S Milosevic	Aston Villa	4.00	+1	+32
51803	D Yorke	Aston Villa	3.00	0	+31
51804	T Johnson	Aston Villa	2.50	+1	+13
51901	J Fjortoft	Middlesbrough	5.00	+3	+22
51902	J Hendrie	Middlesbrough	1.50	+3	+3
51903	P Wilkinson	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	0
51904	N Barmby	Middlesbrough	4.00	0	+26
52001	J McGinlay	Bolton Wanderers	3.00	+1	+18
52003	M Paatelainen	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0	+6
52004	F De Freitas	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0	+18

MANAGERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
60101	R Harford	Blackburn Rovers	5.00	+1	+17
60201	A Ferguson	Manchester United	4.00	-1	+31
60301	F Clark	Nottingham Forest	3.00	0	+26
60401	R Evans	Liverpool	4.00	+3	+29
60501	H Wilkinson	Leeds United	3.00	+3	+22
60601	K Keegan	Newcastle United	4.00	+3	+43
60701	G Francis	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00	+1	+31
60801	R Wilkins	Queens Park Rangers	1.00	+3	+7
60901	J Kinnear	Wimbledon	1.00	+1	+5
61001	D Merrington	Southampton	1.50	+1	+9
61101	G Hoddle	Chelsea	2.50	+3	+23
61201	B Rioch	Arsenal	3.50	-1	+27
61301	D Pleat	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	+1	+15
61401	H Redknapp	West Ham United	1.00	-1	+15
61501	J Royle	Everton	2.00	-1	+15
61601	R Atkinson	Coventry City	1.50	+3	+5
61701	A Ball	Manchester City	1.50	0	+5
61801	B Little	Aston Villa	2.50	-1	+27
61901	B Robson	Middlesbrough	1.00	+3	+29
62001	R McFarland	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	+1	-3

Leader's tactics under fire from adversary criticising frequent use of transfers

Pavia cries foul as James kicks rivals into touch

Team Tactics in Interactive Team Football (ITF) are at least as crucial to success as they are in the Premiership. Of the several point-scoring strategies already known to be in use, some are as obvious as the long-ball game while others could be fairly described as downright cunning.

Kevin James, the manager of ITF's leading team, Kevins Kickers, has proved himself the master of strategy by building up a 36-point lead as the competition embraces the festive period. But his method, which has rightly earned him the plaudits of several other ITF players, has not been to everyone's taste.

Mr A Pavia, of Shamley Green, Surrey, wrote to us this week, stating his dislike of Mr James's frequent use of transfers. "Whilst within the rules of the ITF game," he began, "it seems that Kevins Kickers, and perhaps others, are managing their teams in a way not possible in the 'real world'."

"No team in football changes the players every week, and certainly not by using the best players from other teams just for one match the following week," he continued.

Mr Pavia has a point in his assertion that such frequent chopping and changing would not be found in the Premiership manager's handbook, but Mr James's tactics are perfectly legitimate to our way of thinking. Mr Pavia should remember that all Premiership players are available for transfer.

A rich variety of strategies have been brought to our attention since the ITF game began. It would undermine the playing of the game to avail everyone of these tricks, but here is just one — the 'no-name goalkeeper dodge' — by means of a taster. If you have one of the elite shot-stoppers already in your side, change him to one who is unlikely to play, if his team is facing formidable opposition. This way you avoid the inevitable loss of points incurred if your goalkeeper concedes a welter of goals. A goalkeeper who doesn't play, remember, scores no points — but doesn't lose any either.

The transfer market, then, is the route to success in ITF and failing to use it leaves you at a disadvantage. ITF has a transfer system which allows you to change up to two players each week. Which player you want to offload and who you replace him with is up to you, although you must replace the outgoing player with one from the same category (ie, a full back with a full back) and keep within your £35 million budget.

The ITF transfer system also allows you to adjust your team if one of your players is actually transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership. He would then no longer be eligible for ITF and would have to be replaced. Any overseas or Endsleigh Insurance League players who move into the Premiership during the season will become available for transfer.

You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the **0891 333 331** line during the times given. Calls will be charged at 39 pence per minute cheap rate, 49 pence per minute at other times. If you are calling from the Republic of Ireland, you must call **004 499 020 0631** and you will be charged 58 pence per minute at all times.

You may make up to (but no more than) two transfers a week.

A player transferred out of your team must be replaced by a player from the same category so that the formation of a goalkeeper, two full backs, two central defenders, four midfield players, two strikers and a manager is maintained.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the £50,000 prize or the monthly £500 prizes.

With ITF, not only are you pitting your selectorial skills against other readers of *The Times*, you are also matching your wits against those in the know. With the support of the Professional Footballers' Association, Premiership players have entered sides of their own, and Gary Gillespie, of Coventry City, gives his selection on the opposite page. Like him, you may spend £7.5 million on Tony Yeboah — but will he do better than cheaper alternatives?

Please note that this week, due to technical difficulties, any points accrued from Sunday's game between Leeds United and Manchester United have not been factored into your team score. The players' scores on page 28 do, however, take this game into account.

All matches in the Premiership and those in the FA Cup involving Premiership clubs count and your players and manager win *and* lose you points. With Kevins Kickers continuing to set a scorching pace, is it time for you to delve into the transfer market?

☐ ***All transfer queries regarding Interactive Team Football should be directed to 0171 757 7016. All other inquiries into the playing of the game should be made on 01582 488 122.***

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

Robert Lee's performance for Newcastle on Saturday included two goals and was another example of his purposeful midfield play

THE WEEK'S TRANSFERS IN ITF

Player	Old Club (Code)	New Club (Code)	CHANGE Value
N Whelan	Leeds Utd (50504)	Coventry (51806)	£1 5m

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS IN ITF

All FA Carling Premiership and FA Cup matches in the 1995-6 season count for points. Every goal and penalty counts

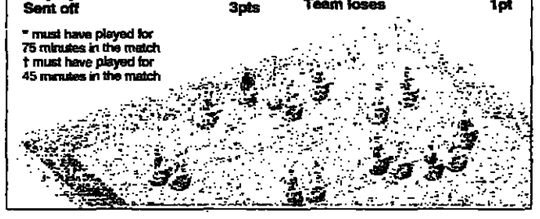
POINTS SCORED

Goalkeeper		**Striker**	
Keeps clean sheet*	4pts	Scores goal	2pts
Scores goal	3pts	**All players**	
Full back/Central defender		Appearance†	1pt
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts	**Manager**	
Scores goal	3pts	Team wins	3pts
Midfield player		Team draws	1pt
Keeps clean sheet*	1pt		
Scores goal	2pts		

POINTS DEDUCTED

Goalkeeper		Booked	1pt
Concedes goal	2pts	Concedes penalty	1pt
Full back/Central defender		Misses penalty	1pt
Concedes goal	1pt	Scores own goal	1pt
All players		**Manager**	
Sent off	3pts	Team loses	1pt

* must have played for 75 minutes in the match
† must have played for 45 minutes in the match



HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITF

Call 0891 333 331

'Calls cost (per minute) 39p cheap rate, 49p other times. Rep. 58p'

If calling from the Republic of Ireland, call 004 499 020 0631

You can make transfers only by telephone using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need your ten-digit selector's PIN, which must be tapped in and not spoken. Follow the simple instructions and use the players' five-digit codes.

The line is open from 6am on Tuesday until 11am on Saturday; from 6pm on Saturday to 11am on Sunday and from 6pm on Sunday until 3pm on Monday. If there are midweek matches, the lines will also close at 3pm on the day of the match (or matches) and re-open the following day at 6am.

You may make up to (but no more than) two transfers a week. Each transfer is a separate transaction and you must sell a player before you can buy one.

A player transferred out of your team must be replaced by a player from the same category - for example a full back for a full back.

When purchasing a player you must ensure that the team value still falls within your £35 million budget (even if your next transfer would rectify any overspending) and does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

Your new player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The score of the player transferred out is taken at the time of transfer; he then ceases to score for you.

Player code

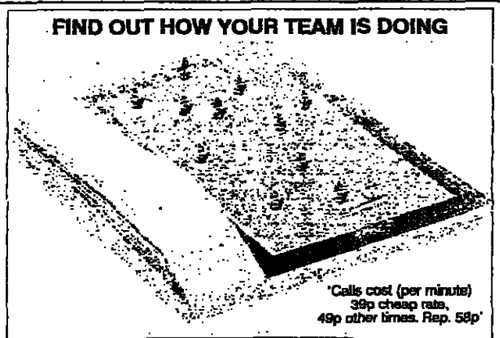
Player out ..... ☐☐☐☐☐

Club .....

Player in ..... ☐☐☐☐☐

Club .....

FIND OUT HOW YOUR TEAM IS DOING



'Calls cost (per minute) 39p cheap rate, 49p other times. Rep. 58p'

Call the ITF checkline on **0891 774 796**

Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) and your ten-digit selector's PIN. The line is open from noon today

THE LEADING 250 SELECTORS IN INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
1	Kevins Kickers	(K James)	355
2	Tommy Cockles XI	(Mr P Johnson)	319
3	Steves Lions 7	(S Brewer)	318
3	Gohils Gods 65	(Mr B Gohil)	318
5	They're Here	(Mr P Johnson)	317
6	Steves Lions 5	(S Brewer)	316
7	Teddy Five	(Mr B Bear)	313
8	Al's Alsorans	(A Hancock)	311
8	Jacobookie FC	(Mr A P Jacobucci)	311
10	Jesmond 1860	(S Murray)	309
10	Tyes Blue Noses	(Mr S Tye)	309
12	Nigels Right Foot	(Mr D Patel)	308
13	Twighlight United	(P C Dilworth)	307
13	Jones Boys Six	(M L Jones)	307
15	Rosies Supers	(P Sutton)	306
16	Loxton's Longshots	(C Loxton)	304
16	Burwell United	(R Banham)	304
16	Steves Lions 2	(S Brewer)	304
19	Nirvana FC	(Mr J Donovan)	303
20	Percys Progress	(M Persich)	302
20	Jaynes Jugs	(K Hughes)	302
20	M i Blues	(P C Harden)	302
20	Harrington Inter	(Mr D Lovell)	302
20	Transporter	(A Jenkinson)	302
25	Steves Lions 8	(S Brewer)	301
25	Sunderland Stars	(K Brown)	301
25	Jessicas Darlings 4	(Mr A Nadison)	301
25	The UK Beavers	(J Elkins)	301
29	Phayco And Smither	(K Booth)	299
30	———	(P Hanna)	298
30	Partisans	(E Donald)	298
32	Barnet FC	(Mr P Johnson)	297
32	My Cat Bailey	(Mr P Johnson)	297
32	Dwayns Dribblers	(A J Philcox)	297
32	Fergies Fury	(P Simpson)	297
32	Steves Lions 6	(S Brewer)	297
▮ 32	The Young Guns	(B Shepherd)	297
38	Gary Pearce	(G D Pearce)	296
38	Formby Flyers	(A Norton)	296
38	Phychic TV	(T Vardy)	296
38	Madrid Knights	(R Jenkinson)	296
38	Weldon Wanderers FC	(S Lee)	296
38	Mac United	(T McCluskey)	296
▮ 44	Gutlord Marching	(Mr J M Harris)	295
44	The Black Knights	(R A Green)	295
46	Robbo's Army	(P Callaghan)	294
46	Snort And Stubbs	(K Booth)	294
48	Novocastrians	(E Donald)	293
48	OHME	(R Matthewson)	293
48	Steves Lions 1	(S Brewer)	293
▮ 48	Kims Kickers	(G Sutton)	293
48	Martinets 5	(T Martin)	293
48	The Wee One Too	(A Nelson)	293
54	Firefly City	(I Harrison)	292
54	The Conjurers	(Mr D J Farmer)	292
54	———	(J Nicholl)	292
54	K P Fantasy Team 4	(KR Patel)	292
▮ 54	Bohinen Forest	(S Bunn)	292
54	Daniel James Utd	(S Reynolds)	292
54	Apollo 2	(S Lazarids)	292
61	No Fear Utd	(G Saunders)	291
61	Foxton Rangers	(J Lees)	291
61	Onceinabluemoon	(Mr D Clarke)	291
64	Lemonias	(Mr P Gregoriou)	290
65	Nookies Bears	(S Cozens)	289
65	Incetta	(B Daly)	289
65	Wheres Botham	(Mr P Johnson)	289
65	Carling XI	(P Parke)	289
65	Barnet Buy Cole	(Mr P Johnson)	289
65	Pig In A Poke	(Mr J Waters)	289
65	Rassell 3	(D Shuter)	289
65	Francis Caldwell FC	(F Caldwell)	289
73	Turners Earners 2	(P Turner)	288
73	Mean Machine	(Ramesh Patel)	288
73	Rosedale Rangers	(Mr D Green)	288
73	Who Needs Mark	(N Persich)	288
73	Mercer's Men	(D Bowford)	288
73	Here We Go	(Mr S Smith)	288
73	Clares Ducks	(T Collier)	288
80	Adams Man Or God 1	(R Pike)	287
80	Fair Fair Flapster	(C Woodward)	287
80	Henry Hilda	(Mr T Thompson)	287
83	Adams Man Or God 4	(R Pike)	286
83	Beardsleys Hair	(Mr P Johnson)	286
83	Bassetts Bouncers	(J Hurd)	286
86	Scol Utd	(B Scollick)	285
86	Rapid Overton	(A Overton)	285
86	Armarch	(A Matthewson)	285
86	Richies Rovers	(R Lovell)	285
86	The Cake Eaters	(Mr S Hughes)	285
86	Always Hope	(Mr R Foster)	285
92	Quinton Forest	(J Baker)	284
92	The Doug Hutches	(M Stacey)	284
92	Aberspurs	(G Shand)	284
92	Skylights	(J Dale)	284
92	Mimosa United	(M Armitstead)	284
92	Goatee Softbeard	(C Armitage)	284
92	I Love Esther	(Mr P Johnson)	284
92	Allstars XI	(D Dunn)	284
92	Vesuvio	(G Batchelor)	284
92	Razor's Raiders	(R A Knowles)	284
92	The Premier Raiders	(Miss C Ella)	284
92	Rory's Rovers	(J Weall)	284
104	Scud 4	(P Hymas)	283
104	Melds Skill Monsters	(M Meldrum)	283
104	Ban Accord	(I Kalson)	283
104	Chip N' Dale XI	(Mrs E L Arrowsmith)	283
104	Brooksborough	(G Brooks)	283
104	Pure & Average	(R Medley)	283
104	Oh Nicky Evans	(Mr P Johnson)	283
104	Roker Rovers	(D Milbourn)	283
104	Glow In The Dark	(J Smith)	283
104	OK United	(———)	283
104	Hull Red Devils	(G Foster)	283
115	Warren Wizards	(J Buckle)	282
115	Sharon's Buds	(Mr D Conroy)	282
115	Cameron Athan	(Mr J R Reader)	282
115	JSJ 16	(J Sutton-Jones)	282
115	PJB Rovers	(Mr P J Butler)	282
115	Shrew Voles	(H Brasher)	282
115	Laid-Back Boys	(R P Crook)	282
115	Flair	(E Bhatoo)	282
123	Fearn Flyers	(C D Fearn)	281
123	Finglen Flyers	(E Ronald)	281
123	Doug's Desperados	(Mr D F Richardson)	281
123	Andys Athletic	(A R Howse)	281
123	Death Or Glory Boys	(J T Luckman)	281
123	PSV Betamix	(Lt A McCole)	281
123	Overhill Rovers	(Mr M James)	281
123	Lucks Rovers 3	(N Bruter)	281
131	Goal Diggers	(C Stacey)	280
131	Monster Monster	(M Parish)	280
131	Ayresome Rangers	(Mr G W Smith)	280
131	Jones Boys Four	(L M Jones)	280
131	Moneybags United	(P Ettridge)	280
131	Sporting Sliders	(K Doughty)	280
131	Fantasy Formbook	(Mr G Crutchley)	280
138	Fedora Days	(R Marlow)	279
138	St Remy Strikers	(G Dabnor)	279
138	Synthetic Dozen	(Mr J Donaldson)	279
138	Top Heavy?	(P Young)	279
138	FC Wombles	(A Williams)	279
138	The Sackers	(S Langley)	279
138	Only Can Saver	(M McKeown)	279
138	Abenbury Villa	(J S Dhesi)	279
146	MGM	(M Morgan)	278
146	Netbusters	(C B Mitchell)	278
146	Street FC	(S Bartlett)	278
146	Howles Heroes	(Mr H West)	278
146	Strangers	(Mr G Banks)	278
146	Map 9	(M Priestley)	278
146	Goals Please	(A Gooch)	278
146	Blaby Dynamo	(L Gilbert)	278
146	Bazs Brufsers	(Mr B Harwood)	278
146	Real Palace FC	(Mr M A Sadler)	278
146	Barrys Army	(J P Barry)	278
146	MH Rovers	(M Hajl)	278
158	Nobby One	(A Brown)	277
158	Mad XI	(Drodgers)	277
158	Grove Rovers	(T Townsend)	277
158	Redcar	(G Thompson)	277
158	Crafty Crooks	(R P Crook)	277
158	Essex Exiles	(M Carr)	277
158	Good Times United	(Mr T Stableford)	277
158	Good Work Fellas	(J Cook)	277
158	Gatto Nero FC	(E Scaletta)	277
158	Col's Daft Team	(C Yates)	277
158	S Express FC	(S O'Toole)	277
158	Bread Or Cake	(Mr P Johnson)	277
158	Real Atheletic	(Mrs G Keynes)	277
158	Poundswick Pupils	(J Platter)	277
158	Champions 1995-96	(S McGill)	277
173	Hall Utd	(T Hall)	276
173	View Forth	(Mr J Taylor)	276
173	Effortless Achievers	(A West)	276
173	Rempstone Rovers	(N A Woodroffe)	276
173	Black Diamond Bay	(Mr D Kerry)	276
173	Orbital Brushes	(Mr S Brocom)	276
173	Radford Rovers	(A Radford)	276
173	Sals Select XI	(Mrs S Y Seel)	276
173	Tomb United	(T Butts)	276
173	Choppers Eleven	(Mr P Chalmbers)	276
183	C	(M Corless)	275
183	Fudgels Foulers	(I Abu Hejleh)	275
183	Willington United	(W Liu)	275
183	Mikes Dream Team	(M Armstrong)	275
183	Sullys 'A' Team	(P Sullivan)	275
183	Tunde United	(Dr T Adetunji)	275
183	QPR Auctioneers A	(S Kempher)	275
183	Winters Wanderers	(Mr A F Winter)	275
183	Partizan Beograd I	(Mr D Stojkovic)	275
183	Barnard Pie	(P Lovatt)	275
183	Nadar	(Mr A Neviazsky)	275
183	Eggs N'ham	(Mr D Warner)	275
183	Jamyjacks	(J I Baker)	275
183	Lancers United	(Mr M M Kirkwood)	275
183	Kings	(E M Young)	275
183	Good-Time Boys	(R P Crook)	275
183	The Mainelacs	(B Whitney)	275
183	Kingsland Rovers	(G Bell)	275
183	Sunlight	(D Akhtar)	275
183	Jemma's Lads	(D Aldridge)	275
183	Adam's Athletic	(A Moore)	275
204	Wannabee Stars	(A P Harris)	274
204	County Pine A	(J Hunt)	274
204	The Specialists	(P Leveridge)	274
204	M S Allstars	(M Stayman)	274
204	Accrington Ollie	(Mr M Raja)	274
204	The James Gang	(A Norton)	274
204	Neopolitan AFC	(Mr B W Horscroft)	274
204	Inter Millham 3	(S Sharp)	274
204	Score A Bundle	(S A Billingham)	274
204	Semit ITF	(Mr F Amone)	274
204	Clarkies Kickers	(G Clarke)	274
204	Leppo Geckhoes	(H Underwood)	274
204	Jovial Utd	(Mr N Hurst)	274
204	Bora In Tashkent	(Mr D McMahon)	274
204	Map 6	(M Priestley)	274
204	Farleigh Vale	(E Layet)	274
204	Boing Boing Baggy	(T Horne)	274
204	Swerve FC	(A Morris)	274
204	Team Pulfesto	(S Anderson)	274
204	Well Safe	(A Costello)	274
204	Wildebeest	(Mr J Albertsen)	274
204	Kev's Kings	(Mr C P Barnes)	274
204	Tiggers Two	(L Lindstrom)	274
227	Tonys All Stars	(A Boyland)	273
227	PSV Winoften	(D Haycock)	273
227	Eaton Forgers	(M Davison)	273
227	Anti-Saints	(J Lowson)	273
227	Betley Reserves	(Mr M Wasik)	273
227	Alien Moonchild	(Mr A E Walkden)	273
227	Commuting Eleven	(B Evans)	273
227	Gales Champions	(M Gale)	273
227	Dukes City	(D Ellis)	273
227	Allstars	(Mr W P Davisworth)	273
227	Dynamo Nurdley	(P Holmes)	273
227	Morse The Pud	(Mr I Patrick)	273
227	Merts Mates 20	(Mr M Hifzi)	273
227	Triple Peelers	(J B Portwood)	273
227	Green Wonders	(A Evans)	273
227	Ramsden Raiders 2	(Mr A Shah)	273
227	Up For Grabs	(Mr D Patel)	273
227	FC FC	(Mr C Head)	273
227	The Rainbow Connect	(G Weiss)	273
227	No Hopers	(S Harris)	273
227	Newcastle Browns 2	(B Maclennan)	273
227	Egerton Park	(D Rhoades)	273
227	The Midfield	(R Radway)	273
227	Le Caprice	(Mr W H Ball)	273

Coral eyes options for Welsh National

THE Coral Welsh National meeting at Chepstow has joined Wetherby, Leicester and Edinburgh on the casualty list for today.

Rodger Farrant, clerk of the course at the Welsh track, said yesterday: "The stewards inspected the course at 3.30 and had no alternative but to abandon the meeting. Parts of the course are still frozen and the overnight weather forecast held out no prospect of improvement."

However, Coral is still hoping to save the Welsh National. Last season's race was transferred to Newbury after Chepstow's meeting was lost and another switch could be in the offing. Rob Hartnett, a spokesman for Coral, said yesterday: "We're not going to do anything today, but will begin to look at it tomorrow."

Hopes of today's revised Kempton meeting, which includes the King George VI Tripleprint Chase, going ahead look bleak with heavy overnight frost forecast. A 7.30 inspection is planned.

All ten Boxing Day fixtures were wiped out because of frost and prospects for tomorrow look just as bad with Taunton the only track not to call an inspection. Although a course spokesman gave the going as good to soft, *he also described the track* as frozen.

Noon inspections have been arranged at Carlisle and Stratford, with Cliff Griggs, the clerk of the course at Plumpton, planning an earlier check for the Sussex course at 9.30.

Limerick was the only meeting in Ireland to survive yesterday. The abandoned card at Leopardstown has been rescheduled for Sunday, but today's meeting is also in doubt, with an inspection called for 7.00.

Prospects for remainder of year's fixtures look bleak as frost tightens grip

Counting the cost of a blank Boxing Day

By Richard Evans, Racing Journalist of the Year

THE prospect of any turf racing in Britain before the new year is bleak, with the weathermen predicting a week of severe frosts and snow showers across the country.

As freezing temperatures forced the entire Boxing Day fixture list to be abandoned yesterday, for the first time since 1962, a London Weather Centre spokesman predicted: "There is very little change in prospect. It will be very cold at nights, with widespread and severe frosts nationwide. There will be snow showers virtually everywhere. That is the picture until December 31 at least."

To add to the festive woes of racing and the betting industry, the normally heavy fixture list at this time of year has resulted in only one all-weather meeting being scheduled this week — at Wolverhampton on Saturday.

While most of yesterday's fixtures were called off by breakfast time, four inspections were required at Kempton before stewards were forced, reluctantly, to announce the abandonment shortly before noon, by which *time around 9,000 spectators* had come through the turnstiles — more in hope than expectation.

After the debacle at Cheltenham earlier this month, when racing was cancelled at the last moment and without warning, Kempton went out of their way to keep the public informed through radio and television bulletins, and they deserve full marks for their forlorn efforts.

"We gave it our best shot but, unfortunately, it is colder now than it was at 5.30 this morning and the wind has got up in the last hour or two," Michael Webster, clerk of the course, said after walking the course a final time.

The King George VI Tripleprint Chase will be run this afternoon if the course passes a 7.30am inspection — but that is most unlikely. "One cannot be hopeful. The forecast is for a very cold night again. We will inspect at 7.30 just in case the weathermen have got it wrong," Webster added.

Significantly, François Doumen, trainer of both Algan and Val D'Alene, decided to send his runners back to their Lamorlaye base in France yesterday afternoon.

Should the racing go ahead today, ante-post bets on nonrunners will be lost, with the exception of those placed on Saturday, after the runners were declared. However, if the race is switched, as expected, to Sandown on January 6, all bets will be void and stakes refunded.

A switch to the Esher course would also enable the race to be reopened to all original entries, and would probably see the participation of Master Oats, the Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, whose intended race at Leopardstown tomorrow is already under threat from the weather. Meanwhile, John Hales, owner of One Man, confirmed that Richard Dunwoody would retain the ride at Sandown.

Apart from the disappointment suffered by racegoers yesterday, the cancellation of ten meetings will hit racing's coffers. An estimated £50 million is normally wagered on Boxing Day races — compared to about £75 million on Grand National Day — and racing will miss out on levy income, worth around £5 million.

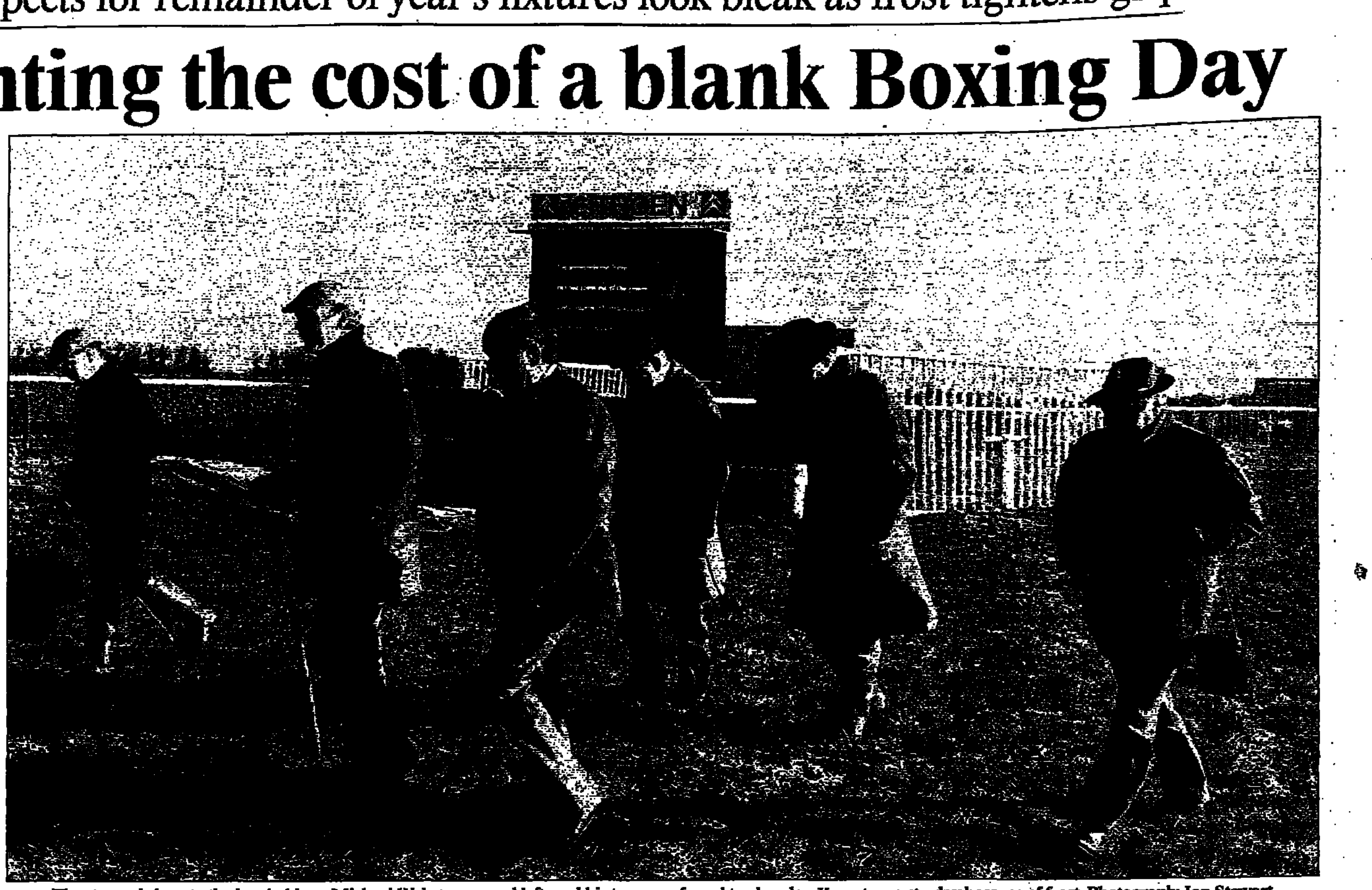
Ironically, Kempton will make a bigger profit from yesterday's cancellation than it would have done had racing gone ahead. The racecourse insures against the loss of budgeted profit — about £100,000. With doubts concerning racing inevitably deterring some people from travelling to Kempton, a smaller crowd than normal would have watched yesterday's meeting.

George Ward, whose photoprocessing company sponsors the two days' racing at Kempton, also insures against the loss of the fixtures but Ring & Brymer, which provides all the catering at the Sunbury course, is likely to make a loss exceeding £20,000.

If Kempton's card this afternoon is abandoned, efforts will be made to rerun the Christmas Hurdle at Cheltenham on New Year's Day or, possibly, at Sandown on January 6.

However, all the other grade one and grade two races due to be staged yesterday and today look likely to be lost permanently and thereby create a real headache for trainers of the best horses. While there is no shortage of races for run-of-the-mill handicappers, the opportunities for Cheltenham and Aintree hopefuls are strictly limited.

For example, Viking Flagship, the Queen Mother Champion Chase winner for the past two years, may have to wait until February 10 for a suitable race after the cancellation of the Castleford Chase at Wetherby today. David Nicholson, trainer of Viking Flagship, said: "We have got to find a way of getting the best races that have been lost to be rescheduled and run on the top tracks over the forthcoming month."



The stewards bow to the inevitable as Michael Webster, second left, and his team are forced to abandon Kempton yesterday because of frost. Photograph: Ian Stewart

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: MERRY GALE
(2.15 Kempton Park)
Next best: Karar
(3.20 Kempton Park)

The Frog Prince weighted to stay one jump ahead

KEMPTON PARK
CHANNEL 4

12.40: Class Of Ninetytwo and Church Law are closely matched on their earlier encounter at Warwick. Preference is for the former but Tim Forster's six-year-old, previously a winner of two point-to-points, will be pushed to cope with **Ubu Val**. The nine-year-old has graduated successfully from the same sphere and displayed abundant stamina when winning at Windsor. He *will relish this stiff test.*

1.10: Storm Alert surpassed himself when chasing home Sound Man last time but **Big Matt** makes more appeal. Nicky Henderson's chaser appears well handicapped and has won over the course and distance. Gales Cavalier would appreciate better ground for his first attempt at this trip. Easy Buck may not be at his best round here. Of the remainder, High Baron is preferred to Bas De Laine.

1.40: Atours, far from fluent at his hurdles, is nevertheless preferred to the injury-prone Montelado, who makes a rare appearance over hurdles. With front-runner Chief's Song in the field Atours will have the race run to suit him and should enhance his Champion Hurdle claims. Bimsey deservedly steps up in class some good efforts in handicaps, while Balanak and Squire Silk must improve to play a part.

2.15: Richard Evans, who previewed this race yesterday, selects **Merry Gale** to win this valuable prize for Ireland.

2.50: This looks good for **The Frog Prince**, who steps up to three miles after an encouraging seasonal debut at Newbury. He split Easy Buck and Rouyan that day and races off the same mark. Yorkshire Gale *is difficult to* catch right. He beat stablemate Run Up The Flag at Cheltenham last time but may *struggle to confirm that form.* Amtrak Express looks anchored with 12 stone and a bigger danger is Percy Smollett. The eight-year-old will have his favoured soft ground and is almost certainly still improving.

JULIAN MUSCAT

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

Ten in Challow

PAUL NICHOLLS'S promising novice hurdler See More Business will face a maximum of ten rivals in the Challow Hurdle at Newbury on Saturday. Julie Cecil's Sesame Seed, though entered, is not qualified to run in the contest having won a hurdle prior to May 1995.

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BIG RACE LINE-UP

2.15 KING GEORGE VI TRIPLEPRINT CHASE C4
(Grade I: £63,835: 3m) (11 runners)

501 U6-P030 ALGAN 24 (CD,S) (Marquesa de Moratalla) F Doumen (Fr) 7-11-10 ... DOUBTFUL 85
(Red, light green cap)
502 FU3F6-1 BARTON BANK 60 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 9-11-10 ... A Maguire 98
(Emerald green, white stars, emerald green cap, white star)
503 P2300/1- BOOK OF MUSIC 375 (G) (Mrs D Lousada) K Bailey 7-11-10 ... DOUBTFUL 71
(Yellow, purple stripe, purple and yellow hooped sleeves and cap)
504 111-10F COULTON 36 (F,G,S) (M St Quinton) O Sherwood 8-11-10 ... J Osborne 88
(Pink and yellow diamonds, yellow sleeves and cap)
505 11U21-1 DUBLIN FLYER 46 (C,D,G,S) (J Sumner) T Forster 9-11-10 ... B Powell 91
(Green, yellow sleeves, white cap)
506 00-3122 EGYPT MILL PRINCE 26 (BF,F,G,S) (S Webb) Mrs J Pitman 9-11-10 ... W Marston 77
(White, red seams and sleeves)
507 1241-21 MERRY GALE 32 (G,S) (H Stanley) J Dreaper (Ire) 7-11-10 ... G Bradley 90
(White, yellow diamonds, yellow sleeves, quartered cap)
508 4163-62 MONSIEUR LE CURE 18 (CD,G,S) (H Brown) J Edwards 9-11-10 ... J F Titley 80
(Orange, black and white hooped cap)
509 11UF-11 ONE MAN 18 (D,F,G,S) (J Hales) G Richards 7-11-10 ... R Dunwoody [illegible]
(Yellow, red star, yellow sleeves, white armlets, yellow cap with red star)
510 25-23F3 VAL D'ALENE 24 (CD,G,S) (M de Montort) F Doumen (Fr) 8-11-10 ... DOUBTFUL 95
(Blue and yellow hoops, blue sleeves, black cap)
511 5/23112- BRIEF GALE 250 (C,G,S) (Mrs C Zetter-Wells) J Gifford 8-11-5 ... DOUBTFUL 94
(Royal blue, large red spots, royal blue sleeves with red spots, red cap)

BETTING: 2-1 One Man, 11-4 Barton Bank, 3-1 Merry Gale, 6-1 Dublin Flyer, 10-1 Monsieur Le Cure, 16-1 Coulton, 20-1 Egypt Mill Prince.

1994: ALGAN 6-11-10 P Chevalier (16-1) F Doumen (Fr) 9 ran

COMPREHENSIVE FORM GUIDE TO THE CONTENDERS

ALGAN
Dec 3, Auteuil, very soft: see Val D'Alene.
Nov 11, Auteuil, very soft: (9-13) 6½l 3rd to Al Capone II (11-0) with Val D'Alene (10-12) a faller (3m 3f 110yd, ch, £71,856, 9 ran).
Mar 16, Cheltenham, soft: see Merry Gale.
Feb 25, Kempton, heavy: see Val D'Alene.

BARTON BANK
Oct 28, Wetherby, good to firm: (11-2) beat Young Hustler (11-10) 7l (3m 110yd, gd II ch, £20,581, 3 ran).
Apr 6, Aintree, good: see Merry Gale.
Mar 16, Cheltenham, soft: see Merry Gale.

BOOK OF MUSIC
Dec 17, 1994, Ascot, good: (11-3) beat Martin's Lamp (11-10) 20l (2m 3f 110yd, gd II nov ch, £9,465, 5 ran).

COULTON
Nov 21, Huntingdon, good: (11-10) close 3rd when last fence faller behind Travado (11-6) (2m 4f 110yd, gd II ch, £15,775, 7 ran).
Nov 11, Cheltenham, good: see Dublin Flyer.
Oct 22, Wincanton, firm: (11-10) beat Amtrak Express (10-9) 6l (2m 5l, gd II lim hcap ch, £17,151, 3 ran)

DUBLIN FLYER
Nov 11, Cheltenham, good: (11-8) beat Egypt Mill Prince (10-9) ½l with Coulton (12-0) 23½l 7th (2m 4l 110yd, gd III hcap ch, £38,502, 12 ran).
Apr 6, Aintree, good: (12-0) beat Toureen Prince (10-0) 9l (2m 6l, hcap ch, £24,955, 26 ran).
Mar 15, Cheltenham, soft: (11-3) 1l 2nd to Kadi (10-4) (2m 4f 110yd, hcap ch, £25,928, 12 ran).

EGYPT MILL PRINCE
Dec 1, Sandown, good: (10-11) 11l 2nd to Lonesome Glory (10-0) (2m 4f 110yd, hcap ch, £6,852, 4 ran).
Nov 11, Cheltenham, good: see Dublin Flyer.
Oct 28, Ascot, good to firm: (11-8) beat Big Matt (10-7) 1l (2m, hcap ch, £16,858, 8 ran).

MERRY GALE
Nov 25, Punchestown, yielding: (12-0) beat King Of The Gales (11-8) 10l (2m 4f, gd I ch, £22,750, 7 ran).
Nov 16, Tipperary, good: (12-0) 6l 2nd to Klairon Davis (12-0) (2m, gd III ch, £6,850, 4 ran).
Apr 6, Aintree, good: (11-9) beat Martomick (11-0) 15l with Monsieur Le Cure (11-9) 2½l 3rd and Barton Bank (11-5) tailed off 6th (3m 1l, gd II ch, £31,558, 6 ran).
Mar 16, Cheltenham, soft: (12-0) 34l 4th to Master Oats (12-0) with Monsieur Le Cure (12-0) 13l 6th, Barton Bank (12-0) disputing 2nd when fell 15th, Algan (12-0) ridden when unseated rider 13th and Val D'Alene (12-0) unseated rider 8th (3m 2f 110yd, gd I ch, £122,540, 15 ran).

MONSIEUR LE CURE
Dec 9, Haydock, good: see One Man.
Nov 25, Newbury, soft: (11-9) 50l 6th to Couldnt Be Better (10-8) (3m 2f 110yd, gd III hcap ch, £48,989, 11 ran).
Apr 6, Aintree, good: see Merry Gale.
Mar 16, Cheltenham, soft: see Merry Gale.

ONE MAN
Dec 9, Haydock, good: (11-2) beat Monsieur Le Cure (11-6) 11l (3m, Ch, £10,114, 5 ran).
Nov 11, Ayr, good: (10-12) beat Jodami (12-0) 7l (3m 1f, lim hcap ch, £10,309, 7 ran).
Feb 25, Kempton, heavy: see Val D'Alene.

VAL D'ALENE
Dec 3, Auteuil, very soft: (10-12) 7½l 3rd to As Des Carres (10-0) with Algan (10-0) 3½l 7th (2m 6l, Ch, £59,880, 12 ran).
Nov 11, Auteuil, very soft: see Algan.
Mar 16, Cheltenham, soft: see Merry Gale.
Feb 25, Kempton, heavy: (11-2) beat Southolt (10-2) 20l with Algan (11-10) tailed off when unseated rider last, remounted to finish 5th, and One Man (10-12) prominent when fell 12th (3m, gd III hcap ch, £29,700, 9 ran).

BRIEF GALE
Apr 21, Aintree, good: (11-9) 11l 2nd to Unguided Missile (12-0) (3m 1l, Nov ch, £6,758, 6 ran).
Mar 15, Cheltenham, soft: (10-13) beat Harcon (11-4) 9l (3m 1l, gd I nov ch, £49,163, 13 ran).
Feb 25, Kempton, heavy: (10-12) beat Kadi (11-3) ¾l (2m 4f 110yd, gd II nov ch, £11,129, 7 ran).

Selection: BARTON BANK

KEMPTON PARK

THUNDERER
12.10 **KIPPANOUR (nap)**
12.40 Ubu Val
1.10 Big Matt
1.40 Bimsey
2.15 Dublin Flyer
2.50 Duhallow Lodge
3.20 Karar

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.10 **UBU VAL**.

GOING: SOFT (7.30AM INSPECTION) SIS

12.10 BONUSPHOTO JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE
(3-Y-O: £7,490: 2m) (18 runners)

101 2211 MISTER CHIPPY 70 (D,F,G) (S O'Farrell) A O'Brien (Ire) 11-10 ... C Swan 92
102 01531P OCEAN HAWK 19 (D,F,S) (Miss J Broadhurst) N Twiston-Davies 11-10 ... T Jenks 87
103 1 GREENSPAN 29 (S) (Camelot Racing) W Muir 11-5 ... S McNeill 80
104 123 KIPPANOUR 19 (D,G) (M Watt) C Mann 11-5 ... R Dunwoody 96
105 1 MUCH TOO HIGH 29 (S) (E Fenaroli) T Naughton 11-5 ... D Gallagher 74
106 1 SOVEREIGNS PARADE 11 (D,G) (R Tooth) N Henderson 11-5 ... M A Fitzgerald 92
107 ABBEY STREET 83F (B Stewart-Brown) O Sherwood 11-0 ... J Osborne —
108 2 BATTLESHIP BRUCE 20 (BF) (T Foreman) N Callaghan 11-0 ... J F Titley 75
109 2 CYRUS THE GREAT 20 (BF) (P Vogt) K Bailey 11-0 ... A Thornton 80
110 22 DANJING 19 (BF) (Richard Green (Fine Paintings)) S Sherwood 11-0 ... P Carberry [illegible]
111 GROOMS GOLD 79F (Mrs J Coward) P Hobbs 11-0 ... Peter Hobbs —
112 KADAMANN 66F (Sir Eric Parker) R Akehurst 11-0 ... M Dwyer —
113 MONUMENT 109F (Ms M Horan) J King 11-0 ... G Upton —
114 NOBBY NORTH 98F (Silver and Blue Racing Club) G Thorner 11-0 ... B Powell —
115 SAILEP 134F (P Slade) R Hodges 11-0 ... W McFarland —
116 SECRET SPRING 69F (M George) P Hedger 11-0 ... M Richards —
117 VICTORY TEAM 91F (R Lavelle) G Balding 11-0 ... B Fenton —
118 2 BELLA SEDONA 29 (E Retail) Lady Herries 10-9 ... A Maguire 82

BETTING: 3-1 Sovereigns Parade, 4-1 Danjing, Kippanour, 5-1 Mister Chippy, 8-1 Ocean Hawk, 10-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

MISTER CHIPPY, completed double, beat KIPPANOUR neck in 7-runner juvenile hurdle at Navan (2m, good). OCEAN HAWK beat Pedaltothemetal 6l in 18-runner juvenile hurdle at Leicester (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start. GREENSPAN beat BELLA SEDONA (5lb better off) 3l in 8-runner juvenile hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2l, soft). MUCH TOO HIGH beat Al Comiche 4l in 10-runner juvenile hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2l, soft). SOVEREIGNS PARADE beat Paddy's Return 3½l in 20-runner juvenile hurdle at Haydock (2m, good). CYRUS THE GREAT 15l 2nd of 9 to Prophets Honour in juvenile hurdle at Fakenham (2m, good). DANJING 3l 2nd of 14 to Our Kris in juvenile hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1l, good) with KIPPANOUR (2lb worse off) short-head 3rd; OCEAN HAWK (3lb worse off) tailed off when pulled up before 2 out.
Selection: SOVEREIGNS PARADE

12.40 BONUSFILM NOVICES CHASE C4
(Amateurs: £7,133: 3m 4f 110yd) (12 runners)

201 /00/P11 CLASS OF NINETYTWO 23 (F,G) (Lord Cadogan) T Forster 6-12-1 ... R Thornton 91
202 /3F451- ALBERT BLAKE 214 (G,S) (Mrs T Kinsey) T Kinsey 8-11-12 ... R Thomas 76
203 2P0P-21 BEAUREPAIRE 29 (S) (Pell-mell Partners) R Alner 7-11-12 ... C Bonner 78
204 5/231 CHURCH LAW 12 (G) (Mrs L Taylor) Mrs L Taylor 8-11-12 ... M Armytage 85
205 121-1 UBU VAL 27 (F,G,S) (W Bethell) W Bethell 9-11-12 ... S Swiers [illegible]
206 35 ALL CLAP HANDS 22 (Blacksmith Club) N Babbage 7-11-8 ... M Fitzgerald —
207 5P:3 BALLYDOUGAN 16 (V) (Mrs R Mathew) P Nicholls 7-11-8 ... R Nuttall 57
208 4611-46 HOLY STING 25 (S) (G MacEchern) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-8 ... M Rimell —
209 0/00-F2 MASTER HUNTER 44 (BF) (M McEvoy) J White 6-11-8 ... D Cullen —
210 3-154 TEATRADER 12 (F,G,S) (B Seal) Mrs L Richards 9-11-8 ... B Pollock —
211 P THEFOURTHMUSKATEER 16 (D & J Newell) S Earle 6-11-8 ... J Culloty —
212 0P-RF4 SUGAR HILL 22 (Mrs T Pilkington) J Gifford 5-11-7 ... P O'Keeffe 61

BETTING: 11-4 Class Of Ninetytwo, 3-1 Ubu Val, 5-1 Beaurepaire, 6-1 Church Law, 10-1 Holy Sting, 14-1 others

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

CLASS OF NINETYTWO beat CHURCH LAW (3lb better off) ¾l in 9-runner maiden chase at Warwick (3m 2l, good) penultimate start with TEATRADER (7lb better off) 60l 5th. ALBERT BLAKE beat The Major General ½l in 14-runner amateurs' maiden hunter chase at Cartmel (3m 2l, good). BEAUREPAIRE beat Price's Hill ½l in 10-runner novice chase at Fontwell (3m 2l 110yd, soft). CHURCH LAW beat Arctic Red 11l in 15-runner maiden chase at Hereford (3m 1l 110yd, good) with TEATRADER (4lb better off) 29l 4th. UBU VAL beat Lets Rumble 2l in 14-runner Windsor novice chase (3m, good) with CHURCH LAW 12l 3rd.
Selection: UBU VAL

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 ... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

1.10 TRIPLEPRINT HANDICAP CHASE C4
(£13,745: 2m 4f 110yd) (9 runners)

301 5300-32 STORM ALERT 25 (F,G,S) (Mrs D Perrett) D Nicholson 9-12-0 ... A Maguire 98
302 112P-22 GALES CAVALIER 32 (C,G,S) (Starlight Racing) D Gandolfo 7-11-5 ... M Dwyer 98
303 4/1112-U HIGH BARON 11 (CD,F,G,S) (Miss C James) R Hodges 8-11-0 ... R Dunwoody 90
304 121F5-1 EASY BUCK 33 (D,F,G,S) (J & J Cook) N Twiston-Davies 8-11-0 ... C Maude 96
305 41/P60P- RICHVILLE 242 (CD,F,G,S) (Major-Gen R Borges) K Bailey 9-10-9 ... J Osborne —
306 1531-23 BIG MATT 46 (CD,F,G,S) (T Benfield, W Brown) N Henderson 7-10-8 ... M A Fitzgerald [illegible]
307 34/2242 BAS DE LAINE 19 (B,CD,F,G) (R Bads Ltd) O Sherwood 9-10-4 ... M Richards 94
308 U31524- SCOLE 335 (D,G,S) (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 10-10-0 ... K Gaule (3) 84
309 21P43-1 DENVER BAY 25 (S) (B Naylor) J Gifford 8-10-0 ... A Maguire 77

Long handicap: Scole 9-5, Denver Bay 9-3

BETTING: 9-4 Storm Alert, 3-1 Easy Buck, 4-1 Gales Cavalier, 9-2 Big Matt, 7-1 High Baron, 14-1 others

1994: AMTRAK EXPRESS 7-10-5 M A Fitzgerald (5-4 fav) N Henderson 3 ran

FORM FOCUS

STORM ALERT 5l 2nd to Sound Man in grade I Mitsubishi Shogun Tingle Creek Chase at Sandown (2m, good). GALES CAVALIER 3l 2nd to Front Street in handicap chase at Newbury (2m 1f, heavy). HIGH BARON distant 2nd to Banjo in grade I Scilly Isles Novices' Chase at Sandown (2m 4f 110yd, soft) penultimate start. DENVER BAY tailed off when pulled up before 3 out. EASY BUCK beat The Frog Prince 1½l in handicap chase at Newbury (2m 4l, good). BIG MATT 4½l 3rd of 12 to Dublin Flyer in grade III Mackeson Gold Cup Handicap Chase at Cheltenham (2m 4l 110yd, good). Previously 1l 2nd of 8 to Egypt Mill Prince in handicap chase at Ascot (2m, good to firm) with STORM ALERT (1lb better off) neck 3rd. BAS DE LAINE 6l 2nd of 6 to Go Universal in limited handicap chase at Doncaster (2m 3l 110yd, good to firm). DENVER BAY beat Dr Rocket 11l in handicap chase at Towcester (2m 110yd, good to soft)
Selection: EASY BUCK

1.40 BONUSPRINT CHRISTMAS HURDLE C4
(Grade I: £31,680: 2m) (7 runners)

401 260-112 ATOURS 40 (CD,F,G,S) (Oh So Rosie Partnership) D Elsworth 7-11-7 ... P Holley [illegible]
402 1104-40 BALANAK 53 (CD,S) (W Dora) D Gandolfo 4-11-7 ... M Dwyer 64
403 1131-14 BIMSEY 25 (D,BF,F,G,S) (A Ryan) R Akehurst 5-11-7 ... J Osborne 84
404 60-U011 CHIEF'S SONG 25 (D,G) (Mrs A Dovino) S Dow 5-11-7 ... M A Fitzgerald 78
405 /121/0- MONTELADO 81F (D,F,G,S) (F Hanson) P Flynn (Ire) 8-11-7 ... R Dunwoody 89
406 101-140 SQUIRE SILK 25 (CD,F,G,S) (R Ogden) A Turnell 6-11-7 ... P Carberry 82
407 1226-35 ABSALOM'S LADY 32 (CD,G,S) (Whitcombe Manor Racing) D Elsworth 7-11-2 ... J Titley 94

BETTING: 5-2 Atours, 11-4 Montelado, 9-2 Bimsey, 6-1 Balanak, Chief's Song, 10-1 Absalom's Lady, Squire Silk.

1994: ABSALOM'S LADY 6-11-2 P Holley (9-2) D Elsworth 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

ATOURS 1½l 3rd of 5 to Large Action in grade II Coopers & Lybrand Ascot Hurdle at Ascot (2m 4l, good). Previously beat Clifton Beat 3½l in 3-runner grade II Tanglefoot Elite Hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good to firm) with ABSALOM'S LADY (4lb better off) 1½l 3rd. BALANAK about 3½l 4th of 8 to Clifton Beat in conditions hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, good) penultimate start. BIMSEY beat Thornton Gale 13l in 9-runner handicap hurdle at Aintree (2m 110yd, good to firm) penultimate start. CHIEF'S SONG, completed double, beat Eskimo Nel short-head in 22-runner handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good) with BIMSEY (14lb better off) 7l 4th and SQUIRE SILK (13lb better off) 17l 12th. MONTELADO, recent Flat winner, best effort over hurdles, beat Leman's Mill 12l in 15-runner grade I Trafalgar House Supreme Novices' Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good to firm). March 1993 SQUIRE SILK best effort this season, beat Bookcase 2½l in 5-runner handicap hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, good).
Selection: ATOURS

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Lady Herries	4	8	50.0	M Dwyer	3	8	37.5
P Nicholls	3	8	37.5	W Marston	5	14	35.7
D Gandolfo	4	11	36.4	P Hide	7	32	21.9
F Doumen	4	12	33.3	R Dunwoody	22	104	21.2
J Edwards	4	14	28.6	M A Fitzgerald	13	62	21.0
T Forster	4	14	28.6	J Osborne	25	126	19.8

2.15 KING GEORGE VI TRIPLEPRINT CHASE C4
(Grade I: £63,835: 3m) (11 runners)

RUNNERS AND RIDERS — SEE ABOVE

2.50 BONUSPOST HANDICAP CHASE C4
(£7,263: 3m) (17 runners)

601 1380-25 AMTRAK EXPRESS 46 (C,G,S) (Amtrak Express Ltd) N Henderson 8-12-0 ... M A Fitzgerald 98
602 111112- PERCY SMOLLETT 274 (D,F,G,S) (R Murray) D Nicholson 7-11-11 ... A Maguire 94
603 22-0335 DOCKLANDS EXPRESS 18 (CD,F,G,S) (R Barnes) K Bailey 13-11-7 ... R Dunwoody —
604 1/12-44F GHIA GNEUIAGH 11 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs S Scott) N Twiston-Davies 9-11-2 ... C Maude 93
605 P156-1U YORKSHIRE GALE 11 (CD,G,S) (B Naylor) J Gifford 9-11-2 ... A P McCoy 95
606 1/131P/ UNCLE ELI 620 (C,G,S) (J Bailey) R Alner 12-11-0 ... —
607 512-313 RUN UP THE FLAG 19 (D,BF,F,G,S) (Pell-mell Partners) J Gifford 8-10-13 ... P Hide 97
608 12215-2 THE FROG PRINCE 33 (CD,F,S) (R Cooper) N Gaselee 7-10-13 ... J Osborne 96
609 111-F03 POSTAGE STAMP 39 (F,G) (P O'Donnell) F Murphy 8-10-12 ... M Dwyer 95
610 5222-22 TOUREEN PRINCE 34 (D,G,S) (P Stamp) Miss H Knight 12-10-9 ... R Farrant 97
611 14-321F DUHALLOW LODGE 14 (D,G,S) (H Spack) C Barwell 8-10-7 ... B Clifford 97
612 1FP-405 GIVUS A BUCK 14 (B,D,F,G,S) (K Castelle) D Elsworth 12-10-6 ... P Holley —
613 F511-06 FAST THOUGHTS 13 (D,F,G,S) (W Dora) D Gandolfo 8-10-5 ... J F Titley 90
614 21/104-4 MR MATT 36 (F,S) (Mrs E Boucher) D Grissell 7-10-5 ... D Bridgwater 90
615 633214- CUDDY DALE 292 (CD,F,G,S) (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 12-10-2 ... K Gaule (3) [illegible]
616 610-640 HILLWALK 13 (B,D,F,G,S) (M Shone) R Curtis 9-10-0 ... P Carberry 93
617 0121F-4 OVER THE POLE 35 (BF,G) (Pell-mell Partners) J Gifford 8-10-0 ... — 88

BETTING: 7-2 The Frog Prince, 5-1 Yorkshire Gale, 6-1 Percy Smollett, 7-1 Amtrak Express, 8-1 Postage Stamp, 10-1 Run Up The Flag, 12-1 Ghia Gneuiagh, 16-1 others

1994: NATIVE PRIDE 7-10-2 N Williamson (100-30) K Bailey 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

AMTRAK EXPRESS 16½l 5th of 12 to Dublin Flyer in grade III Mackeson Gold Cup Handicap Chase at Cheltenham (2m 4l 110yd, good) with POSTAGE STAMP (9lb better off) 41½l 11th. YORKSHIRE GALE beat Edimbourg 2½l in 6-runner handicap chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f 110yd, good) on penultimate start with RUN UP THE FLAG (3lb better off) 3l 3rd and GHIA GNEUIAGH (3lb better off) distant 4th.
UNCLE ELI beat Ryde Again 2l in 6-runner conditions chase at Wincanton (2m 5l, good to soft) on penultimate start, March 1994. RUN UP THE FLAG last season, beat PERCY SMOLLETT (3lb better off) 1½l in 4-runner handicap chase at Sandown (3m 110yd, good to firm), March 1995. THE FROG PRINCE 1½l 2nd of 9 to Easy Buck in handicap chase at Newbury (2m 4l, good).
DUHALLOW LODGE beat TOUREEN PRINCE (3lb better off) 3l in 7-runner handicap chase at Taunton (3m, good) on penultimate start. MR MATT 10½l 4th of 7 to Dextra Dove in handicap chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f, good). CUDDY DALE beat Flyer's Nap 5l in 8-runner handicap chase at Sandown (3m 110yd, heavy) penultimate start, February 1995.
Selection: RUN UP THE FLAG

3.20 TRIPLEPRINT HANDICAP HURDLE (£7,263: 3m 110yd) (14 runners)

1 206P-43 TOP SPIN 11 (G,F,G,S) (Mrs E Long) J Jenkins 6-12-0 ... J Osborne 91
2 2300-2P ISLAND JEWEL 11 (CD,S) (M Cartwright) J Bosley 7-11-11 ... M Bosley [illegible]
3 1400-53 TRICKLE LAD 19 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs H Prendergast) F Murphy 6-11-6 ... P Carberry 94
4 2106-24 FUZZY LOGIC 13 (G,S) (Cheltenham Racing Ltd) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-0 ... T Jenks 87
5 333-112 WEE WINDY 19 (CD,F,G,S) (W Gale) J Gifford 6-11-0 ... P Hide 93
6 1112P-5 TREASURE AGAIN 25 (S) (J Gaynor) Mrs M Jones 6-11-0 ... M A Fitzgerald 90
7 /30/00-0 GIVENTIME 25 (S) (L Kimber) A Turnell 7-10-13 ... L Harvey 89
8 6-41311 PHARANEAR 14 (D,F,G,S) (Stainless Fasteners Ltd) D Nicholson 5-10-11 ... A Maguire 92
9 5P421-F FEELS LIKE GOLD 32 (G) (Independent Twine Co) M Pipe 7-10-3 ... D Bridgwater 94
10 11121 THE LAST FLING 32 (F,G) (R Watercon) Mrs S Smith 5-10-3 ... R Guest 95
11 3-46214 KARAR 14 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs M Sampson) R Rowe 5-10-0 ... D O'Sullivan 98
12 /0-2P1 WILL I FLY 13 (F,S) (Mrs O Foster) J Long 9-10-0 ... B Fenton (5) 86
13 353-032 ROYAL PIPER 20 (S) (A Darlington) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 8-10-0 ... R Greene 81
14 5/213-RP ELBURG 6 (V,D,G) (Mrs A Gamble) R Hoad 5-10-0 ... M Richards 71

Long handicap: Karar 9-12, Will I Fly 9-11, Royal Piper 9-3, Elburg 9-3

BETTING: 3-1 Feels Like Gold, 9-2 Pharanear, 5-1 The Last Fling, 11-2 Wee Windy, 8-1 Trickle Lad, 12-1 Top Spin, 14-1 others

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

TOP SPIN 9l 3rd of 11 to Silver Wedge in grade I Long Walk Hurdle at Ascot (3m 1f 110yd, good). ISLAND JEWEL (3lb better off) tailed off when pulled up before 2 out. ISLAND JEWEL neck 2nd of 7 to Conquering leader in grade II Akzo Nobel Long Distance Hurdle at Newbury (3m 110yd, soft) penultimate start with TOP SPIN (3lb worse off) 11l 4th. FUZZY LOGIC most recent hurdle effort, 6¾l 6th of 17 to Burnt Imp in handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (3m 5l 110yd, good to soft), January 1995 WEE WINDY 1¼l 2nd to Better Times Ahead in handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (3m 110yd, good) with TRICKLE LAD (3lb better off) 1½l 3rd. TREASURE AGAIN 26l 5th to Bells Life in handicap hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4f 110yd, soft) with GIVENTIME (4lb better off) 21l 8th. PHARANEAR beat Dessingten Dene 3½l in handicap hurdle at Bangor (3m, good), with KARAR (6lb better off) 12l 4th. THE LAST FLING beat Runaway Pete 20l in handicap hurdle at Haydock (2m 6f, good). FEELS LIKE GOLD disputing lead when fell last.
Selection: WEE WINDY

Proper to make wasted costs order

Tolstoy-Miloslavsky v Aldington

Before Lord Justice Rose, Lord Justice Roch and Lord Justice Ward

[Judgment December 13]

Where the plaintiff's solicitors were in all the circumstances unreasonable in conducting the litigation against the defendant it was proper to make a wasted costs order against them.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the solicitors, Schilling & Lom, against a costs order made by Mr Justice Collins in favour of the defendant, Lord Aldington of Knoll Farm, Aldington, Ashford, Kent.

Mr Guy Mansfield, QC and Miss Adrienne Page for the solicitors; Mr Duncan Matheson, QC and Mr Gregory Chambers for the Law Society and the Bar Council; Mr Charles Gray, QC, for Lord Aldington.

LORD JUSTICE ROSE said that the appeal was against that part of the order of Mr Justice Collins made on December 16, 1994 whereby he ordered under section 51(1) and (3) of the Supreme Court Act 1981 that the solicitors should personally pay 60 per cent of the defendant's costs of the proceedings.

By a respondent's notice Lord Aldington contended that the order should be affirmed also on the additional ground that the judge should have made a wasted costs order under section 51(6) and (7).

Because issues of general concern to the Bar and the Law Society were raised by the appeal the Registrar of Civil Appeals ordered, pursuant to Order 59, rule 8 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, that the notice of appeal and the respondent's notice should be served on the Bar Council and the Law Society to enable them to appear at the hearing of the appeal and to make submissions.

The background to the present litigation was an action for libel brought by Lord Aldington against a man called Watts and Count Tolstoy. The trial lasted two months.

On November 30, 1990 the jury found for Lord Aldington. He was awarded £1.5 million damages and costs. His reputation was vindicated, but in financial terms it was only a Pyrrhic victory. Watts had paid £10,000 and Count Tolstoy nor a penny.

The writ in the present proceedings was issued on February 21, 1994 by the solicitors, who had acted for Count Tolstoy since about April 1991. Count Tolstoy sought an order that the judgment of November 30, 1990 be set aside on the ground of fraud.

The writ was not preceded by any letter before action. Legal aid was not applied for. The statement of claim was served, apparently settled by and bearing the signatures of leading and junior counsel. Both counsel and solicitors provided their services to Count Tolstoy free of charge.

On March 29, 1994 Lord Aldington applied for an order that the statement of claim be struck out and the action dismissed on the ground that it was frivolous, vexatious and an abuse of the process of the court. The matter came before Mr Andrew Collins, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the High Court. He concluded that the claim was utterly hopeless and ordered that it be struck out as an abuse of process.

On October 21, 1994, by written notice Lord Aldington applied for an order that the solicitors should pay his costs. The application was heard by Mr Justice Collins, as Mr Andrew Collins had then become, on November 30, 1994.

The application was based on two main grounds: (a) the costs incurred by Lord Aldington were "wasted costs" as defined by section 51(6) and (7) of the 1981 Act, as amended by the Courts and Legal Services Act 1990, and the solicitors should be ordered to bear them, their conduct having been improper and unreasonable; (b) by agreeing to act without fee, the solicitors put themselves in the position of third party funders of the litigation and should therefore be ordered to pay Lord Aldington's costs pursuant to the general discretion conferred by section 51(1) and (3) of the Act.

The judge rejected the first ground but accepted the second and ordered the solicitors to pay 60 per cent of Lord Aldington's costs.

In his Lordship's judgment, the judge reached the right conclusion but did so by the wrong route. Section 51(1) and (3) did not confer jurisdiction to make an order for costs against legal representatives when acting as legal representatives.

Mr Mansfield was correct in his submission that there were only three categories of conduct which could give rise to an order for costs against a solicitor: (i) if the conduct was within the wasted costs jurisdiction of section 51(6) and (7), (ii) if the conduct was otherwise a breach of duty to the court, and (iii) if the solicitor acted outside the role of solicitor.

There was, in his Lordship's judgment, no jurisdiction to make an order for costs against a solicitor solely on the ground that he acted without fee. It was in the public interest and it had always been recognised that it was proper for counsel and solicitors to act without fee. The access to justice which that could provide in cases outwith the scope of legal aid conferred a benefit on the public.

Section 58 of the Courts and Legal Services Act 1990 which legitimised conditional fees inferentially demonstrated Parliament's recognition of that principle. It would be curious if a legal representative on a contingent fee and, therefore, with a financial interest in the outcome of litigation could resist an order for costs against himself but one acting for no fee could not.

Whether a solicitor was acting for remuneration or not did not alter the existence or nature of his duty to his client and the court, or affect the absence of any duty to protect the opposing party in the litigation from exposure to the expense of a hopeless claim.

Considering whether a wasted costs order should have been made under section 51(6) and (7), his Lordship said that the solicitors relied on an affidavit which said that they decided to act because they considered that Count Tolstoy had a cause of action which he wished to pursue for bona fide reasons. They would not have acted if they had not taken the view that it was proper to represent the plaintiff.

The background to the present litigation was unusual. The trial took two months, so the costs, like the damages awarded, were enormous. Count Tolstoy had not the means or, apparently, the intention to satisfy either. The solicitors knew of all of those matters.

They chose to act for the plaintiff without fee. Without a letter before action and without applying for legal aid they issued proceedings on the plaintiff's behalf. The action was a collateral attack on a court of competent jurisdiction which was prima facie an abuse.

The pleading was signed by counsel. Counsel's role, however, did not exonerate the solicitors from their obligation to exercise their own independent judgment to consider whether the claim could properly be pursued.

The facts showed a lack of due propriety in the conduct of the litigation and an abuse of process of the court in the wider sense to be found in *Ridehalgh v Horsefield* ([1994] Ch 205, 234).

His Lordship emphasised that acting without fee, and doing so in a hopeless case, or even in a case struck out for abuse of process, was not conduct which itself would justify the making of a wasted costs order. But when all the other circumstances of the case were added, the solicitors' conduct was properly to be characterised as unreasonable in the way that word was defined in the *Ridehalgh* case (p232).

No solicitor in the position of the present solicitors, taking all the factors into account, could reasonably have instituted the proceedings. If, in the absence of further explanation, the circumstances clearly pointed to unreasonableness, such a conclusion could not be avoided by the solicitors asserting that they were acting properly. It was for the court, not the solicitors, to judge that.

On the evidence before the court the institution of the proceedings was conduct which did not permit a reasonable explanation and the judge should have so found. Although his Lordship differed from the reasoning of the judge, the order which he made was correct.

Lord Justice Roch and Lord Justice Ward delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Barlow Lyde & Gilbert; Miss Diane Burleigh and Ms Janice Bye; Allen & Overy.

No power to award costs after wayleave hearing

Regina v Department of Trade and Industry, Ex parte Healaugh Farms

Before Mr Justice Carnwath

[Judgment December 13]

The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry did not have power to make an award of costs against one party in favour of another, following a wayleave hearing under the Electricity Act 1989.

Mr Justice Carnwath, sitting as an additional judge of of the Queen's Bench Division, so stated when dismissing an application for judicial review brought by Healaugh Farms against a decision of the Department of Trade and Industry dated March 28, 1995 that there was no provision for one party to a wayleave hearing to pay the costs of another.

The National Grid Company Ltd as licence holder under the Electricity Act 1989 had made a proposal for a new overhead line application for compulsory wayleave was made and a hearing took place in February 1995. Before it could be completed the inspector fell ill. The applicant requested the secretary of state to exercise power to award the applicant costs of the hearing against National Grid.

Mr W. Robert Griffiths, QC and Mr Peter Village for the applicant; Mr David Holgate for the department; Mr Meyric Lewis for National Grid.

MR JUSTICE CARNWATH said that building a new overhead line might involve the secretary of state in two types of procedure: (i) application for consent under section 37 of the 1989 Act; (ii) grant of wayleaves under Schedule 4, paragraph 6 if the owner did not give them voluntarily. The former procedure was governed by Schedule 8, the latter by Schedule 4 to the 1989 Act.

Mr Griffiths had submitted that there was power under section 250 of the Local Government Act 1972 on the basis that the proceedings were in substance, if not name, an inquiry and they related to functions of a local authority, that is, the functions of a local planning authority which it exercised under Schedule 8 of the 1989 Act when reviewing applications for consent to an overhead line by the secretary of state under section 37. Those functions were intimately linked to the wayleave procedure under Schedule 4, as in the present case where a section 37 decision was contingent on wayleave.

Alternatively, there was power under section 62(2) of the 1989 Act. A wayleave hearing was an inquiry under Part I, and therefore covered by the costs provisions of section 62 which imported the 1972 Act.

In his Lordship's judgment, section 250 of the 1972 Act could be dealt with shortly. Even assuming the wayleave procedure to be an inquiry, it was not in his Lordship's view, one held under an enactment relating to local authority functions.

It was true that the word "functions" was a wide one and had been said to "embrace all the duties and powers of a local authority": see *Hazell v Hammersmith London Borough Council* ([1992] 2 AC 1, 29).

In that sense, it could be said to cover the function of the local authority in responding to applications under the 1989 Act. However, the expression was "an enactment relating to" such functions. That qualification must connote some more substantial relationship between the enactment and the specific role of the local authority.

There could be very few modern statutes in the public sphere which did not involve the local authority at some stage, if only as consultee. If that were a sufficient "relationship", the qualification would have little meaning.

Whether one looked at the Electricity Act as a whole, or specifically at Schedule 4 paragraph 6, the functions to which the enactment "related" were those of licence holders under that Act, not of the various bodies and individuals who might be incidentally involved as consultees or otherwise.

That view was consistent with the fact that Parliament, in section 62 of the 1989 Act, had specifically incorporated section 250(2) to (5) of the 1972 Act, rather than relying on the effect of section 250(1).

His Lordship was unable to accept the submission that as "inquiry" was not defined by the 1989 Act, guidance as to its ordinary meaning could best come from the Tribunals and Inquiries Act 1971 under which procedure rules were made.

The fact that a hearing was a statutory inquiry for the purposes of the 1971 Act did not mean that it was an inquiry for the purposes of section 62 of the 1989 Act. The 1971 Act expressly recognised that under other enactments there were two distinct categories of "inquiries" and "hearings".

In the 1989 Act a clear distinction was drawn between procedures involving a public inquiry (Schedule 8) and those conferring an opportunity to be heard (Schedule 4 paragraph 6). In that context the only reasonable interpretation of section 62 was as referring to inquiries expressly so called.

The difference between Schedule 8 and Schedule 4 reflected the difference in nature: the former was concerned with establishing a principle with examination of all the issues in a public forum; the latter was concerned with private land interests.

Admittedly those with private land interests were not in terms precluded from raising points of principle. The secretary of state had not shut out new points, but the nature of the proceedings was directed to the position of the individual owner, rather than general public interest.

That difference was reflected in the Electricity (Compulsory Wayleaves) (Hearings Procedure) Rules (SI 1967 No 450). For instance, there was no right for third party objectors to appear and the hearing might be held in private. That distinction matched one well recognised in other areas of the law: see section 322 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

The 1967 wayleave rules derived from a time when there was little apparent difference in substance between the form of an inquiry and a hearing. Since then town and country planning practice had developed a clearer distinction.

Ironically, along with the widening of the gap between inquiry and hearing in the planning field the two had been brought together in relation to costs by section 322 of the 1990 Act.

Unfortunately under the Electricity Act, where the inquiry procedure was still governed by rules in the 1960s format, there had been no similar assimilation of provisions on costs.

His Lordship was therefore forced to hold that there was no power to award costs. He did so with some reluctance. There was no reason why an objector to compulsory wayleave should be any worse off in relation to costs than for instance an objector to a revocation order under the 1990 Act.

Nor was there any reason why there should be power to award costs in relation to a public inquiry under Schedule 8 but not the procedure under Schedule 4. If anything, the power was more pertinent in the latter procedure, which was directly concerned with interference with private rights in the public interest.

Solicitors: Pinsent Curtis, Leeds; Treasury Solicitor; Oswald Hickson Collier.

Power to make order to keep bankrupt in jurisdiction

Morris v Murjani

Before Lord Justice Hirst, Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Mr Justice Buxton

[Judgment December 20]

The High Court had jurisdiction under section 333 of the Insolvency Act 1986 to issue an injunction to prevent a bankrupt from leaving the country.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by Mohan Baghwandas Murjani against an order of Sir John Vinelott, sitting as a judge of the High Court on December 18, 1995 restraining him from leaving the country pending the hearing of an application by his trustee in bankruptcy, Christopher Morris, for his committal for contempt of court.

Section 333 of the 1986 Act provides: "(1) The bankrupt shall — (a) give to the trustee such information as to his affairs, (b) attend on the trustee at such times, and (c) do all such other things as the trustee may for the purposes of carrying out his functions . . . require."

Mr Matthew Collins for the bankrupt; Mr Philip S. Marshall for the trustee in bankruptcy.

LORD JUSTICE PETER GIBSON said Mr Murjani was a member of a family which formerly had extensive trading interest in Hong Kong.

In 1979-1980 his money had been transferred to family trusts. He had been made bankrupt on December 19, 1991 owing £12 million but had continued to live in luxury. His first trustee in bankruptcy had concluded that the family trusts could not be attacked. His present trustee thought he was concealing assets.

The injunction under appeal had been granted to aid in securing Mr Murjani's compliance with the duty imposed on him by section 333 of the 1986 Act.

Sir John Vinelott had held that the obligation of the bankrupt and the correlative right of the trustee to require the bankrupt to do those things which he could be required to do created a hybrid right for the trustee in appropriate cases to seek the protection of the court. The trustee's right to information might be lost if the bankrupt left the jurisdiction.

Mr Collins had based his argument on Lord Diplock's statement in *Siskina (owners of cargo lately laden on board) v Distos Compania Naviera SA* ([1979] AC 210, 256) to the effect that the right to an interlocutory injunction depended on there being a pre-existing cause of action against the defendant.

That case related to an ordinary dispute involving the alleged violation of private rights. It had recently been confirmed by the Privy Council in *Mercedes-Benz AG v Leiduck* ([1995] 3 WLR 718).

The present litigation was not like that affecting private rights of litigants such as was the case in the *Siskina*. While accepting that the court was bound by the *Siskina* his Lordship protested against the application of dicta of even so eminent a judge as Lord Diplock as though they were words of a statute of universal application.

Section 333 created a right that the trustee could enforce. He had the right and in appropriate circumstances the duty to enforce the bankrupt's statutory rights. The bankrupt's assets had been vested in the trustee as a result of the adjudication order.

The trustee had to get in assets as speedily as he could. The duties imposed on the bankrupt were all plainly designed to assist the trustee in the performance of his statutory functions.

A trustee could under section 366 obtain a warrant for the arrest of a bankrupt who failed to comply with his summons to appear before the court. In his Lordship's view the distinction between that power and the duty under section 333 was a tenuous one.

His Lordship could not see why the court could not grant an injunction to ensure compliance. It would be extraordinary if the trustee could obtain an order for the arrest of the bankrupt but could not obtain the less severe order preventing him leaving the jurisdiction. He would dismiss the appeal.

Mr Justice Buxton delivered a concurring judgment, and Lord Justice Hirst agreed.

Solicitors: Nabarro Nathanson; Dibb Lupton Broomhead.

Only court can correct sentence

Regina v Clue

Before Lord Justice Russell, Mr Justice Judge and Judge Rhys Davies, QC

[Judgment December 19]

A sentence imposed by a court sitting in public could not be altered by administrative action. If a sentence was imposed in error it had to be corrected in public, either by the court which imposed it or, once outside the statutory time limits, by the Court of Appeal.

The Court of Appeal so stated when granting the application of Karl David Clue and reducing to 12 months detention in a young offender institution a sentence of 22 months, later varied to 18 months, imposed by Judge Pullinger following the applicant's plea of guilty on July 12, 1995 in Croydon Crown Court to two offences of assault occasioning actual bodily harm, committed on January 27, 1995.

Miss Stella Reynolds, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the applicant.

MR JUSTICE JUDGE said that the applicant was just 16. On September 13 the head of prisoner services administration at the young offender institution and remand centre where the applicant was being held wrote to the Lord Chancellor's Department stating that as the provision in the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 which increased from 12 months to 24 months the maximum sentence available for an offender of the applicant's age did not apply to sentences for offences committed before February 3, 1995, his sentence would be reduced to 12 months.

One consequence of a sentence being imposed by a court sitting in public was that not only the defendant but also the victim of the crime, witnesses and everyone with an interest in the case, as well as the public at large, knew precisely what had happened.

If a sentence was imposed in error, as was the sentence in the present case, that error had to be corrected in public. Apart from her Majesty's prerogative, no other procedure was appropriate.

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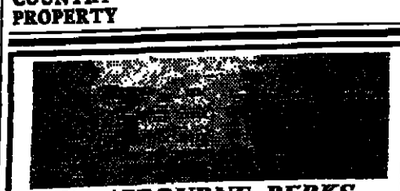

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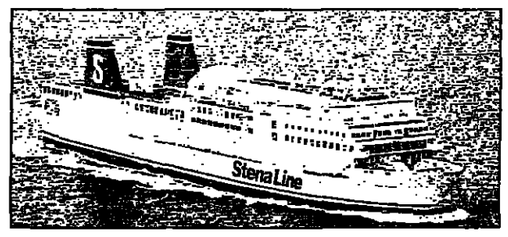

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■ TURKEYS

The worst debacle in the history of Hollywood? We are surely talking about *Heaven's Gate*

■ THEATRE

In Manchester, Marx Brothers lookalikes recreate the madcap humour of Animal Crackers

THE TIMES ARTS

■ YOUNG ARTS

Pilots at war: how the Science Museum and the London Symphony Orchestra mixed sound and aviation

■ TOMORROW

Hans Werner Henze's nightmare at the Garden: Rodney Milnes recalls *We Come To the River*

GREAT SHOWBIZ NIGHTMARES: Today, the film that ruined a studio. **Geoff Brown** reopens *Heaven's Gate*

How the west was one long disaster

There is nothing unusual about a bad film. They get made all the time. The script is unfocused, the cast faded, the director a hack just anxious to get through the day. The film's public run is short and sour, or perhaps it goes straight to video. Money may be lost by the financiers, but since expectations were probably never high the loss can be shrugged off. That's life; that's the movies.

But a colossal flop — a turkey, in fact — is a bird of a different colour. Something like *Heaven's Gate*; or perhaps we should say "Michael Cimino's *Heaven's Gate*", since the director's contract, prepared in March 1979, insisted upon the proprietary credit and demanded his name be emblazoned on the finished print, on all advertising, even on theatre marquees, in lettering the same size as the title. A flop is a bad film shot down from on high: and the combination of Cimino's ambition and arrogance and Hollywood's own gullibility pushed *Heaven's Gate* into the stratosphere.

> ❛ Cimino's epic spent 220 minutes majestically getting nowhere ❜

Cimino's contract was with United Artists, a Hollywood entity first established in 1919 by Chaplin, Douglas Fairbanks, Mary Pickford and D.W. Griffith as a haven for independent film-makers. By the late 1970s, United Artists was owned by a faceless conglomerate, the Transamerica Corporation, but it still liked the notion of giving maverick artists a home. With Cimino and his western project, originally titled *The Johnson County War*, UA got more of a maverick than it bargained for.

Who was this Cimino who whipped up such a grandiose project from a little-known battle in 1892 between Wyoming cattlemen and immigrant farmers, and insisted on stamping his name all over it? He was in his mid-30s. He had studied at Yale (art history, architecture and painting). He had worked successfully in Madison Avenue and directed television commercials. In Hollywood he had written scripts, and directed one of them for Clint Eastwood: *Thunderbolt and Lightfoot*, a good, taut, character-driven action comedy.

But the reason UA listened enthralled when Cimino unfurled his western epic was the director's second film, *The Deer Hunter*, which had opened the previous December. This emotionally overwhelming saga of Pennsylvanian steelworkers and the Vietnam War was big in every way — the length alone was three hours and three minutes.

Cimino was Hollywood's new golden boy, and UA wanted his lustre. Hence the name above the title; hence the company's acquiescence to other contract clauses that increased Cimino's control but limited his financial responsibility.

At the outset, the troubles facing *Heaven's Gate* concerned the budget and the scheduling. Eager to see the film in cinemas by Christmas 1979, UA proposed a tight schedule hardly fitted to a newly anointed cinematic god not known for his economic ways. *The Deer Hunter* had gone way over budget; it had also won five Oscars, including Best Picture and Best Director, and UA's bosses wanted Cimino to deliver them their share of Oscar statuettes.

Cimino would not be hurried. Headquartered on remote locations in Montana he chiselled away at every landscape, every exposed image, until they reached a perfection best suited to his personal vision of the American West.

As recounted by Steven Bach (then UA's head of production) in his gripping book *Final Cut*, after 12 days of shooting Cimino was ten days behind schedule. He needed to shoot two pages of script a day; instead, he was managing five-eighths of one page. Time is money in movie-making; and Cimino's desire for constant retakes and authentic detail was soon taking a $7.5 million production into a region — $20 million, $30 million — where UA's bookkeepers saw no possible chance of a recoupment. Where would it all end, except in misery or a masterpiece?

Footage seen by UA executives comfortingly suggested the latter. Stunning photography by Vilmos Zsigmond of landscapes dotted with a few human figures. Sets bustling with immigrant hordes. Dust clouds raised by a thousand feet; smoke belching from a vintage train or factory chimneys. It looked magnificent.

Rushes, however, tell one story; the finished film tells another. The precise problem, however, was that *Heaven's Gate* did not appear to tell a story at all. When finally assembled for public exhibition — not at Christmas 1979, not in the spring, but in November of the following year — Cimino's epic spent three hours and 40 minutes majestically getting nowhere.

On a visual level separate chunks were easy to admire, but the token squirts of narrative glue never held the poor characters together. There was Kris Kristofferson as the conscientious Marshal of Johnson County, striving to avoid a set-to between haughty cattlemen and starving immigrants from Eastern Europe who steal the odd cow to survive. There was Sam Waterston, stalking scenes in satanic black as the cattle baron who draws up a death list of 125 immigrants.

There was Isabelle Huppert running the local bordello (and making her American debut). There was Christopher Walken as a notorious gunfighter, and, once in a while, John Hurt as a wastrel intellectual whose sudden appearances had the aggravating effect of a stone placed in a shoe.

Critics at previews were more aware, though, of the chasms between the characters, and the inability of Cimino's ideas about civilising the wilderness to fight through the glittering set-pieces.

True, you could sit back and enjoy the glowering skies, the massed twirling skaters at the Heaven's Gate recreation hall, or an incredible camera movement that started in a station-master's office, dashed on to the platform for a train's arrival, then crossed the tracks to the towering buildings and milling crowds beyond. But the very panache of Cimino's visual surface only underlined the vague muddle within.

Once *Heaven's Gate* was out in the open, its problems began all over again. After only one day's public showing in New York and Toronto the film was hauled back for repairs. Some footage was begging to be cut, especially in the elaborate prologue set in Harvard: but any re-editing would only increase a budget already over the $30 million mark. Still, UA thought it was the only way to make a releasable film.

By April 1981, with Cimino's reluctant co-operation, editor William Reynolds had managed to snip away more than an hour; the new version lasted 149 minutes, but the shorter length did not mean greater cogency.

Like *Waterworld* this year, *Heaven's Gate* had generated extraordinary media interest as a cinematic folly. Critical support was found, especially in Europe; but unlike *Waterworld*, the wider public showed little curiosity for Cimino's balloon of a film, whatever its size.

The fall-out from the debacle was considerable. United Artists discreetly wrote off the $44 million the film and its promotion finally cost. There were management changes and a takeover bid from MGM, which was accepted, signed and sealed in May 1981, one day after the recut *Heaven's Gate* appeared at the Cannes Film Festival.

The wind removed from his sails, Cimino disappeared from sight, developing projects that never materialised until *Year of the Dragon* in 1985, a Chinatown thriller that showed some signs of his visual excess but not of his old ambition.

Budgets were scrutinised and shrunk all over Hollywood. Hot young directors with grandiose ideas were suddenly slapped down. The western was dead. So were films with either of two words in the title. One was "Heaven's". The other was "Gate".

Off the rails, on the wrong track and going nowhere slowly — Michael Cimino's *Heaven's Gate* was ten days behind schedule after 12 days of shooting

THEATRE

Not yet Marx of genius

WHY replay a Marx Brothers movie? Because they are crazily funny, of course. But why replay one on stage with lookalikes? This question is not truly answered by the Royal Exchange's *Animal Crackers*, even with comedian Ben Keaton reincarnating Groucho, alias Captain Spalding, the bananas explorer.

The production, co-directed by Emil Wolk and Gregory Hersov, has rough edges. A handful of cane chairs, for instance, hardly conjures up the luxury mansion of Mrs Rittenhouse. However, the quips are still corkers, and this show, in keeping with the original's improvisational spirit, uninhibitedly throws in songs, dances, circus acts (a monocycling waiter), and plot adjustments (the pilfered painting becomes a living statue, somewhere between Eros and a fairy).

Animal Crackers
Royal Exchange, Manchester

The head butler grandly announcing audience members at the entrance generates entertaining "guest" appearances. However, the panto-style sing-along to "Hooray for Captain Spalding" was not over-enthusiastic. Moreover the cast's new numbers, composed by Chris Jordan, protract the action with romantic duets and a vaguely politically correct song by the female statue, Groucho would surely have ripped such sentimentality to shreds.

And yet the mood is catchily jovial. Keaton is having a high old time. With greasepaint moustache and eyebrows, he does a very decent imitation of Groucho, escorting the ladies in a stalking demi-squat. True, he loses some lines, and the staging spoils others. But he does ad-lib animatedly.

Joseph Alessi's Ravelli is not as frisky as the kleptomaniacal Chico. Dwarfish Miltos Yerolemou, giving his bit parts plenty of welly, is more flamboyant. But Toby Sedgwick, an outstanding clown, steals the show as Harpo.

KATE BASSETT

Hilary Finch on how a look at wartime flight is fostering children's musical appreciation

Lofty ways to bring music down to earth

YOUNG AT art

The words of W.B.Yeats's Irish Airman have haunted me this year. "I know that I shall meet my fate Somewhere among the clouds above: Those that I fight I do not hate. Those that I guard I do not love."

Two world wars viewed from the air; and the lines dive-bombed me again as I sat under a biplane in the Flight Gallery of the Science Museum on a white December morning, high above the great revolving wheel, the Christmas tree, the jostling in the gift shop.

"A lonely impulse of delight Drove to this tumult in the clouds": this, exactly — though it was never mentioned — was the impulse behind an extraordinary joint project between the Science Museum, the Wigmore Hall, the London Symphony Orchestra and 150 primary school children from Westminster and Hackney.

The idea was to study flight in two world wars — its techniques, its hazards, its emotions, its celebrations — and to focus the vast complex of (suitably intercurricular) matter in the strong abstraction of music.

In Times of Strife was masterminded by Richard McNicol, the LSO's animateur supreme. His winning formula of taking what is often a particularly knotty piece of contemporary music, dissecting it and abstracting from it both the imaginative stimulus and a set of precise musical patterns for new creative composition, is now a major British export. And from Finsbury Park to Finland, it never fails to achieve lift-off.

This time it was to *Octandre*, a piece for eight chamber musicians, written shortly after the first world war by Edgard Varèse, a composer who aptly saw music as a sort of visionary art-science, and whose practical ideas for collaborating with scientists and engineers were way ahead of their time.

What's more, his notions of sound projection in space, his use of unrelated cross-rhythms, cells of unpitched percussion and any number of boldly coloured sound masses — even the odd siren or two — were eminently suitable for the abstracting.

McNicol's imagination worked on that of Varèse, and heard in his opening oboe solo a young pilot floating above the chaos of war; fragments of machine noise, battering body and nerves; a single ornamented note punctuated by the sharp shots of a dogfight: the pulsing heartbeat of a young pilot; one plane after another returning in a final ambivalent canon.

The eight LSO soloists took the ideas to the four primary schools (plus three which were shadowing the project) throughout October and November. At Sir Thomas Abney Primary in Stoke Newington, Paul Ratledge, teaching the history of flight to groups of children, many with considerable language and learning difficulties, suddenly found he had to contend with rather more than kites and hot-air balloons.

"And I don't play even the recorder!" he said. Ratledge asked his charges to imagine what they would feel like as a wartime pilot. "Even eight-year-olds are not blank sheets," he said. "They've watched TV this year and know exactly what VE-Day was all about."

They developed their compositions group by small group, closely if unconsciously following Varèse's forms and structures.

The LSO players visited, played, inspired, fine-tuned and gradually built up a vision of an end product, and told them when to play and when to keep silence. At the end of November, all the school groups met in the Wigmore Hall to perform their pieces and to hear a professional performance of *Octandre*.

The grand finale in the Science Museum's Flight Gallery saw the musicians of Sir Thomas Abney huddled under a biplane, Nike Airtrainers poised on tiptoe for lift-off.

A drumbeat pulsed through the music's veins, a rattle, a sweep, a dusting of unpitched percussion was integrated with xylophone motifs and a networking of tunes and ostinati, and was built in a slow, long crescendo to cap one of the most subtle compositions of them all.

And what did they really think of the great Varèse original? "Well," says Ratledge, "it's not exactly the sort of thing I'd play them during silent reading. I don't like it myself. But it's great for analysis, and the children are riveted.

"They don't want it to stop. Now they see it as the sort of music that they play."

● *For more information about the London Symphony Orchestra's extensive education projects, contact Emma Chesters, head of education, London Symphony Orchestra, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2Y 9DS (0171-0588 1116)*

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■ OPERA

A rare Verdi resuscitated: *Luisa Miller* is magnificently staged by Opera North

■ CHOICE 1

Lust and gore: Cheek by Jowl revives *The Duchess of Malfi*

VENUE: In preview at Wyndham's Theatre

THE TIMES

ARTS

■ CHOICE 2

Colin Baker stars in a new staging of *Great Expectations*

VENUE: Now at the Alexandra, Birmingham

■ CHOICE 3

English National Ballet is in festive mode for *The Nutcracker*

VENUE: Now running at the Festival Hall

OPERA: Rare Verdi staged in Leeds; changes for the better in ENO's Offenbach

Melodrama proved to pack a punch

Luisa Miller
Grand, Leeds

It was ironic and somehow inevitable that on the very day when the plugs were pulled on the proposed new opera house in Cardiff Bay, Opera North should have given so clear a demonstration of the vital contribution made by companies outside London to our operatic way of life. Here was a "difficult", little-known Verdi work, sung in English, daringly cast, fearlessly staged and above all greatly appreciated by the audience. Attendance should be compulsory for all those who say it doesn't matter what language opera is sung in because you can't hear the words anyway. You can if composer, conductor and singers know their jobs, as was the case here.

Luisa is "difficult" because Cammarano's libretto is so drastic a compression of Schiller. Out goes the fierce social criticism, and you are left with a plot that looks like a parody of Victorian melodrama. Village maiden Luisa loves and is loved by the pseudonymous son of the Count; the Count has committed murder to gain the title, and wants his son Rodolfo to make a dynastically advantageous marriage; Luisa's poor but honest father, used as a pawn in the intrigues, comes on as somewhat relentlessly poor but honest; Wurm, the Count's accomplice, positively invites a green spotlight as he blackmails Luisa into marriage; all ends with a botched double suicide.

What makes *Luisa* worth reviving is Verdi's burning sympathy for his heroine, as in *Stiffelio* and *Traviata*, which came soon after; this was the time when his relationship with Giuseppina Strepponi was being cemented. It was also the time when he was casting aside the shackles of form, and there are many musical surprises to keep you on the edge of your seat: absence of finales, arias that turn into duets, and so on. And there are two of those father-child relationships that Verdi depicted so unsparingly.

Opera North squared up to the difficulties defiantly. Doing *Luisa* in English risked derision. There was one nervous laugh early on, thereafter total silence, proving one of the immutable laws of theatre: you can get away with any amount of scenery-chewing — Tim Albery's production and Stewart Laing's sets had toothmarks all over them — provided the performers believe in what they are doing.

They did. Albery and Laing took an even greater risk in playing the piece in modern dress, dour working clothes for the peasants, with aristos of the green wellies and headscarf persuasion. Against all odds, it worked. The giant range of steps dominating Laing's decor might seem too literal a representation of the upstairs-downstairs content, but it certainly made its point.

Middle-period Verdi is hideously difficult to sing, and while not all Opera North's cast would be engaged at La Scala for the same roles next week, all had been carefully prepared by the conductor Paul Daniel and his staff, and were singing just that little bit better than their absolute best — which is more interesting than listening to rent-a-stars going through the motions. Luisa starts as a Donizetti heroine — all ingenue scales and trills — and ends up as Aida, and young Susannah Glanville managed both aspects with extraordinary aplomb. But it's a big, big sing, and I hope she exercises caution over the coming weeks.

Alan Opie was in sterling form as Miller; the father-daughter duet in the last act is one of Verdi's great dramatic paragraphs, and emerged as such via their larynxes. Arthur Davies (Rodolfo) sounds as fresh and secure as he did when he made his debut more than 20 years ago.

Matthew Best caught the Count's equivocal character neatly, though there is room for more light and shade in his duet with Wurm recalling the murder. Clive Bayley turned in one of his scarily neurotic impersonations as Wurm, who should perhaps be more steely, more a proto-Iago.

Daniel found Verdi's anger at the waste of young lives with mounting fervour, and his orchestra and chorus were on top form.

RODNEY MILNES

DONALD COOPER

Alan Opie, in top form as Miller, and Susannah Glanville in the title role of Verdi's *Luisa Miller*, which has been powerfully revived by Tim Albery for Opera North

Success for Frayn, second time round

La Belle Vivette
Coliseum

Indecision was in the air after the first night of *La Belle Vivette*. Even those usually ready with a firm forecast of Hit or Miss did some fence-sitting over Michael Frayn's reworking of Offenbach's *La Belle Hélène*. Five performances further on and with a second pair of principals alternating with Lesley Garrett and Neill Archer, as Vivette and the composer Berger, the Coliseum is fast working towards a success.

The spoken dialogue, discreetly amplified, is now audible, which it certainly was not on opening night. The good jokes in Ian Judge's production, including the body-builder statues which watch Paris financiers do their deals, look even better and the desperate ones, mainly in Act III, speed by a little faster. James Holmes in the pit now has a far firmer grip of Offenbach's beguiling score and he has turned this into a real company show, with cocottes and bankers all strutting their stuff on the revolving stage.

But the real new plus comes from Thomas Randle's Berger. Neill Archer sang the role well enough, but he is an indifferent actor. Randle grasps the role from the start, creating in a trice the callow musician who catches the eye of *la grande horizontale*, Vivette; the country boy is soon caught up in country matters. His tenor is slightly heavier than ideal for the part, but the Judgement of Paris aria soars away. And at the end, after Randle has led the yodelling finale in buoyant style, Berger and Vivette do a bit of soaring themselves as they go up and away in a beautiful balloon.

Janis Kelly, the new Vivette, does not aspire to Lesley Garrett's showbiz glamour, but offers a good-time girl who prefers a nice young man to a boring old one. Her soprano is well weighted but needs a bit more abandon in her big Act II aria. But she excels in the shenanigans of the last act where Frayn switches into *Noises Off* mode and the stage is filled with monsters from the *Ring*. Here is the only change for the worse. The dragon no longer has a Woodbine in his mouth. If the PC police have moved in, would they please note that dragons normally smoke.

JOHN HIGGINS

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

THE DUCHESS OF MALFI: First night of previews for Anastasia Hille, playing the beleaguered heroine in Cheek by Jowl's new production. In London for a month during its world tour. Declan Donnellan directs.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1746). Tonight-Mon, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. Opens Jan 2, 7pm.

THE NUTCRACKER: Ben Stevenson and Desmond Heeley's seasonal confection for English National Ballet is a visual delight, while keeping to a straightforward telling of E.T.A. Hoffmann's 1816 tale. The set comes complete with flying pastry cooks and Christmas trees that grow and grow.
Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Today, 2.30 and 7.30pm; until Jan 6 Ⓢ

AIDA: Elijah Moshinsky's production of Verdi's exotic masterpiece is one of those rare musical treats when everything falls into place. Sharon Sweet, Nina Terentieva, Michael Sylvester, Simon Estes give powerhouse performances and Daniele Gatti conducts. Dennis O'Neill sings Radames on Saturday.
Royal Opera House, Bow Street, WC2 (0171-304 4000). Tonight and Sat, 7.30pm. Ⓢ

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM: Darren Day, Nyree Dawn Porter and Colin Baker open the second half of the Alexandra's holiday schedule with **Great Expectations**.
Alexandra, Suffolk Street (0121-643 1231). Today-Sat, 7.30pm; mats today and Sat, 2.30pm. Until Feb 17 Ⓢ

BOLTON: Drawn from the York Mystery plays, adapted by Tony Harrison, **The Nativity** provides a timely antidote for panto.
Octagon Howell Croft South (01204 520661). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2pm. Until Jan 6. Ⓢ

GLASGOW: Last week of performances for **Scottish Ballet**, sweeping aside the handsome princes and snowflakes for Tinkerbell and magic dust in *Peter Pan*.
Theatre Royal (0141-332 9000). Tonight-Sat, 7.15pm Ⓢ

MANCHESTER: If you prefer your dancers to be on skates, then the alternative, but surely dazzling, **Nutcracker** on ice is just for you. Olympic gold medallists Oksana Baiul and Viktor Petrenko star with British national champion Steven Cousins.
Nynex Arena (0161-930 8000). Tonight, 7.30pm. Then **Birmingham**, NEC (0121-767 4040), Thurs. **Newcastle** Arena (0191-401 8000), Fri and Sat; **Sheffield** Arena (0114-256 5656), Jan 2, 3; **London** Arena (0171-538 1212), Jan 5, 6.

LONDON GALLERIES

British Museum: Westminster Kings and the Medieval Palace of Westminster (0171-636 1555). **Hayward**: Art and Power: Europe under the dictators 1930-1945 (071-928 3144). **National Gallery**: Paintings from National Trust Houses (0171-747 2885). **National Portrait Gallery**: Richard and Maria Cosway (0171-306 0055). **Royal Academy**: David Hockney Drawing Retrospective (0171-439 7438). **Serpentine**: William Turnbull, sculpture and paintings (0171-723 9072). **Tate**: Paintings in Tudor and Jacobean England (0171-887 8000). **V & A**: Jain Art from India (0171-938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
□ **Seats at all prices**

◪ **ACCORDING TO HOYLE**: Tense and crafty William Gaminara play centering on the poker sessions played between erstwhile friends.
Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (0171-722 9301). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 4pm Ⓢ

■ **COMPANY**: Adrian Lester, Sheila Gish, Sophie Thompson in an excellent staging of Sondheim's bittersweet musical on marriage, pro and contra.
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm Ⓢ

□ **CYRANO**: The bittersweet love-story rethought as a battle within the Indian film industry. Bollywood star Naseeruddin Shah is a fine hero, and Ranjit Bolt's jokes are neat, but the new conflicts can't match those in the original.
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight, 7.30pm; Thurs, 2.30 and 7.30pm. Ⓢ

□ **DEAD FUNNY**: Belinda Lang, Kevin McNally and Sam Kelly in Terry Johnson's sharply funny play about comics and some of their fans.
Savoy, The Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm and Sat, 5pm. Ⓢ

◪ **THE GLASS MENAGERIE**: Sam Mendes's radiant production. Zoe Wanamaker and Claire Skinner play mother and daughter; Ben Walden is Tom.
Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Sat, plus Dec 28 and Jan 4, 3pm

□ **HYSTERIA**: Henry Goodman plays Freud, with Tim Potter as Salvador Dali, in Terry Johnson's surreal, double award-winner. The funniest serious play in London.
Duke of Yorks, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm. Ⓢ

◪ **THE JUNGLE BOOK**: Tim Supple's vigorous, utterly enjoyable adaptation of three Mowgli stories. A refreshing relief from Disney cuteness.
Young Vic, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363). Today, 2.30 and 7pm Ⓢ

□ **RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET**: A marvellously mad mix of *The Tempest* with *Great Balls of Fire* and other cosmic hits of the 1950s and 1960s.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-379 5399). Mon-Thurs, 8pm; Fri and Sat, 5pm and 8.30pm. Mat today, 2.30pm.

□ **SON OF MAN**: Dennis Potter's story of the life of Christ (Joseph Fiennes), religious rebel. Strong acting, good design, unclear purpose.
Pit, Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight, 7.15pm, Thurs, 2pm and 7.15pm Ⓢ

◪ **SOUTH PACIFIC**: Patti Boulaye plays Bloody Mary in Phil Willmott's strong and winning production of the Rodgers & Hammerstein tropical evergreen.
Drill Hall, Chenies Street, WC1 (0171-637 8270). Tue-Sat, and Jan 7 and 14, 7.30pm

□ **TRAINSPOTTING**: Irving Welsh's blackest of black comedies, set on the wild side of Edinburgh: drugs, danger and vomit. Limited London season after record-breaking tour.
Ambassadors, West Street, WC2 (0171-836 6111). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 5pm

LONG RUNNERS

◪ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (0171-867 1044). ◪ **Buddy**: Strand (0171-930 8800). □ **Communicating Doors**: Gielgud (0171-494 5530). □ **Dead Guilty**: Apollo (0171-494 5070). □ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Albery (0171-369 1730). ◪ **Grease**: Dominion (0171-416 6060). ◪ **Indian Ink**: Aldwych (0171-416 6003). ■ **Oliver!**: Palladium (0171-494 5020). ◪ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (0171-344 0055). □ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre. **Availability at time of going to press; check box office.**

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **THE INDIAN IN THE CUPBOARD** (PG): A toy Indian figure comes alive. Restrained and imaginative version of Lynne Reid Banks's children's stories; with Hal Scardino and Litefoot. Director, Frank Oz.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **West End** (01426 915 574)

CURRENT

◆ **THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT** (15): What happens when the widowed President gets a girlfriend? Not much, even with Michael Douglas and Annette Bening. Director, Rob Reiner.
Empire (0171-437 1234) **MGMs: Fulham Road** Ⓢ (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **BABE** (U): Glorious, vivacious family film about a sheep-herding pig, with a cast of talking animals.
Barbican Ⓢ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Empire** Ⓢ (0171-437 1234) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (01426 914 098) **Plaza** (0171-437 1234) **Rio** (0171-254 6677) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **GOLDENEYE** (12): Pierce Brosnan twinkles as the new James Bond. A rip-roaring thriller with a sense of humour, with Sean Bean. Director, Martin Campbell.
Barbican Ⓢ (0171-638 8891) **MGMs: Baker St** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Sq** (01426 915683) **Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **CRIMSON TIDE** (15): Antique heroics in a nuclear submarine, with Gene Hackman, Denzel Washington.
MGM Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** Ⓢ (01426 915683)

FARINELLI (15): The life of an 18th-century castrato. Lots of opera, sex and clothes, but Gerard Corbiau's film only scratches the material's potential.
MGMs: Swiss Centre (0171-439 4470) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Minema** (0171-235 4225)

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER (15): Actors struggle to mount *Hamlet*. Over-manic comedy from Kenneth Branagh, with Michael Maloney, Joan Collins.
Barbican Ⓢ (0171-638 8891) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121)

◆ **MURDER IN THE FIRST** (15): Flashy but absorbing Alcatraz drama, with Kevin Bacon, Christian Slater and Gary Oldman. Director, Marc Rocco.
MGM Haymarket (0171-839 1527) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (U): John Ford's wonderful 1946 western about Wyatt Earp with Henry Fonda, Linda Darnell and Victor Mature.
Renoir (0171-837 8402)

◆ **THE SANTA CLAUSE** (U): Divorced dad becomes the new Santa. Broad family comedy with a human face, featuring Tim Allen. Director, John Pasquin.
MGM Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **THE SWAN PRINCESS** (U): Wizard threatens wedding of Prince Derek and Princess Odette. Bland animated fairy tale. Director, Richard Rich.
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **THREE WISHES** (PG): Hobo spreads wisdom in the American suburbs. Dawdling romantic fantasy directed by Martha Coolidge, with Patrick Swayze and Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio.
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

UNSTRUNG HEROES (PG): Diane Keaton directs this eccentric heart-warmer about a boy's charmed life with crazy relatives. With Nathan Watt, Andie MacDowell, John Turturro.
MGM Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Notting Hill Coronet** Ⓢ (0171-727 6705) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Hill** Ⓢ (0171-435 3366)

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Rachel Kelly investigates Lindsey House, a hidden historic mansion refurbished in grand style to create the ultimate bachelor pad

Aspects of love for a Chelsea retreat

MICHAEL POWELL

Design for living: leaseholder John Stefanidis in the library of his Cheyne Walk home. He has tried to refit each interior in sympathy with the mood of the architecture

The entrance to No 100 Cheyne Walk reveals little of the grandeur to come. Leave the traffic of the Embankment behind, pass through a modest if stylish front garden and, like Alice in Wonderland, you enter a magic land.

This is Lindsey House, one of London's best-kept secrets. The freehold is owned by the National Trust, an 86-year lease held by the interior designer John Stefanidis.

A stone plaque in the black-and-white chequered hall recounts the house's history: "Standing on the site of Sir Thomas More's Chelsea farmhouse and possibly incorporating parts of it, Lindsey House was largely rebuilt from an earlier building in 1674 by the 3rd Earl of Lindsey," it runs.

"Ursula, Countess of Plymouth, lived here in 1703 with her son Lord Windsor, who married the widow of Judge Jeffreys. The building has seen frequent alterations over the following three centuries, including reconstruction in 1751 by Count Zinzendorf to provide the London headquarters of the Moravian Brethren. Divided into three houses in the 19th century, the part forming 100 Cheyne Walk was redesigned by Sir Hugh Lane with a garden by Sir Edwin Lutyens."

Now the house is for sale for £6.25 million through the London agents Aylesford and Chesterfield. Mr Stefanidis is moving because the 20-room house is too large for him. He has a country house in Dorset and hopes to move to Butler's Wharf, although he is fearful that Sir Terence Conran's development on the Thames by Tower Bridge might be too far from his office in Chelsea and the pads of his clients.

His concern is understandable. Those clients include some of the world's wealthiest men, women and organisations. He is noted for remodelling Eaton Hall for the Duke of Westminster, for improving the Governor's parlours at the Bank of England and working for Mrs Getty in San Francisco.

When I went round No 100 with Mr Stefanidis, an elegant figure in a perfectly cut charcoal suit and black suede shoes, I was hopeful of gleaning some decorating advice of the "ten top tips" variety. How better to learn from the maestro than in a guided tour of his own home?

In fact, I soon learnt, he dislikes dishing out generalities about home improvements. Instead, the best way to cull some of his wisdom is to listen to him describe the particular and perfect detail on show at No 100.

"What passes for good taste is often suspect," he says. "It is surely better, to have an aesthetic code based on your personal preferences. An exercise in discipline will mean your surroundings reflect your personality, not merely your aspirations or a current volatile fashion."

The role of architects and designers, and indeed the individual at home, is, he says, "to avoid gratuitous aesthetic statements and seek harmony. This applies to a public concourse just as it does to a sitting room. They must acquire their own congenial character — in short, a 'spirit of place'."

No 100 Cheyne Walk certainly has that spirit. When Mr Stefanidis moved in, the house was divided into flats and he bought the one on the first floor. A sitting tenant still has two rooms downstairs, a possible disincentive for a buyer, although these have their own separate entrance via a back staircase.

Over his 28-year tenure of the house, Mr Stefanidis has bought up other flats and restored the whole to near perfection. His first priority was to make his surroundings comfortable — and that, he says, should be a priority for all aspiring designers. Before you make any more extravagant plans, ensure your plumbing and central heating are the best you can afford.

His next step was to respect the existing architecture of the house wherever possible, and reveal it to its best advantage. So he recovered the grand old staircase which had been boxed in, then opened up rooms so they flowed into each other in a manner reminiscent of a Venetian palazzo. The panelling has been thoughtfully preserved in each and enhanced with stippling, dragging and other paint effects. "These are noble rooms," says Mr Stefanidis. "Notice how wide the doors are — they are wonderful."

Upstairs the feel of the house becomes more reminiscent of the Arts and Crafts movement, so he has chosen colours and designed his own wallpapers to complement the aesthetics of that period. In a sense, the house has dictated its own decor.

Light is always crucial, he says. "One of the best things about the house is the wonderful light reflected from the view. At night the bridges are lit up and very romantic." The windows are dressed with pull-down blinds behind unlined double curtains, or even half-drawn plain straw or muslin blinds, to give the impression that blinding sunlight might otherwise fill the rooms.

Mr Stefanidis's mirrors, often in pairs, his rows of plain silver flowerpot vases, his polished chrome, steel, brass or lacquer furniture, all pick up and throw out light.

The Gertrude Jekyll garden was restored to its former glory and remodelled by Arabella Lennox-Boyd. She has created two sitting areas which you can see from the house, while buildings beyond have been screened by high trellises covered in roses.

The aim in redesigning and redecorating has been to concentrate on the views through the house and garden. An outside door from the hall has been opened up to give a marvellous perspective beyond, while the owner's bedroom has been divided to create a separate dressing room complete with cupboards full of meticulously ordered drawers. A folding screen allows the larger room's original three windows to remain visible from the bed.

There are other architectural tricks. On the second floor, part of the landing has been walled off to create a discreet passageway between bedroom and bathroom. Had it been left open, the peculiar magic of the arrangement would have been lost.

"Italy is a huge influence," says Mr Stefanidis. "Architecturally, it is without doubt the most important country in the world."

Having got the basics right, Mr Stefanidis has gradually filled the house with beautiful possessions — elegant furniture, Andy Warhol prints.

Of course we cannot all afford such luxuries. But Mr Stefanidis emphasises that much of the art of creating an impression lies in sensitive display — so every mantelpiece has a different rhythm to it: one with glass vases arranged in perfect regularity, another covered in clutter.

A new buyer would probably have to remodel the house, so perfectly has it been tailored to a bachelor's needs. But the lease on the downstairs flat is expected to come up for sale in the next few years, and those rooms would probably best convert into family rooms: at one end a kitchen, perhaps; and at the other a soft playroom.

Any alterations must be done in consultation with the National Trust, which also insists that the garden remains on show to those people who write in advance and request to visit. In fact this is no great burden, says Mr Stefanidis.

He believes that at the very least he has made the house both agreeable and welcoming for its next owner. "I hope it has a happy atmosphere," he says. It does indeed.

● *No 100 Cheyne Walk is for sale through Aylesford (0171-351 2383) and Chesterfield (0171-581 5234)*

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PROPERTY

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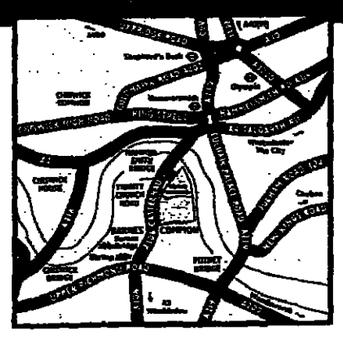

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PROPERTY ALSO APPEARS ON PAGE 31

INTERFACE

Lightning strikes need not come as a bolt from the blue

LIGHTNING strikes can be a significant hazard for oil, chemicals and explosives companies, increasing the risks of fire and damage to buildings.

But help is at hand with a new computer-based forecasting system developed by the Meteorological Office that will give firms predictions on where, during a thunderstorm, lightning is likely to hit the ground.

It then give firms advance warning of whether to shut down for a few hours and have extra staff on hand, including firefighters.

The system, which can be accessed from a personal computer at home or in the office, is called Forecast Lightning Risk. It is part of a family of weather services, available under the office's Meteorological Information Self-Briefing Terminal (Mist), which have or are being developed by the Met Office for everyone from pilots of light aircraft to market gardeners.

The lighting service shows a coloured coded map of the United Kingdom, highlighting areas at risk county by county. It is compiled by Manchester Weather Centre, which merges information on thunderstorms fed in from other national centres.

Subscribers to the service can also see a moving 'graphical image of lighting moving across the country.

Colin Hord, manager of the Mist project at Bracknell, Berkshire, says: "Using the system, the customer can zoom in on their screens to see if their location is at risk and the animation feature allows the movement of isolated thunderstorms to be monitored.

"Not only can you find out whether lightning is likely to happen, but you can also keep tabs of actual lightning occurrences and can see if they are coming your way."

The Met Office's lighting detection system, which feeds the service, is accurate on strikes and bolts to within five kilometres.

Mr Hoard says that not only chemical, oil and explosive plants will be offered the service. Computing, telecomunications companies can also suffer from strikes. A single bolt is able to bring a whole network to a halt.

Security firms managing burglar systems at homes and businesses could also benefit from the new service. Lightning can trigger alarms, requiring the police or security staff to make costly but unecessary calls.

One firm which is using the system is the Shorrock Group in Blackburn, Lancashire, in its alarm and customer communications centre. The company monitors thousands of burglar alarms from the centr and hopes the Mist system will improve the way its staff tackle false alarms from burglar systems.

"The problem of false alarms generated by alarm systems as a result of inclement weather is an industry-wide problem," says Martin Braddock, the company's business development director.

The company is using the system to marshal staff and resources before the weather triggers emergency calls, as well as filtering out genuine alarm calls from the false ones.

"This system will allow us to eliminate bottle-necks of calls before they occur," says Mr Braddock.

Other people using the Mist system include power companies who constantly update forecasts of temperatures to demand.

The service highlights the welter of new ways in which weather data is being delivered. Weather forecasts provided via fax machines, tailored for use by aeronautical clubs, farmers, market gardeners and sailors, are also proving popular.

Pilots can dial up the fax services and get, up to three days ahead, the kind of detailed meteorological information that shows if, say, a flight to Wales from Scotland is feasible given the forecasted weather conditions.

The service is tailored to give quite specific weather forecasts for individual aerodromes around the country.

A similar service for sailors will send faxes of weather charts and reports for yachtsmen. Traditionally yachtsmen have listened to the BBC Radio for forecasts but the fax service means there is nothing to jot down and the detail for a specific areas is far greater.

Farmers and fertiliser merchants can also use a Met Office fax service that tells them the best time to put fertiliser on the land based on weather forecasts.

Research indicates that when the average daily temperatures through the winter hit a certain limit, grass will need feeding. If the fertiliser is then put on, the field is more likely to take up the nitrogen, meaning less will run off into rivers.

Similar research indicates that pesticides work best at certain temperatures and farmers also want to know when it is best to spray so that the chemicals are not blown away or washed away by wind.

Another fax service offers farmers six-day and daily forecasts on temperature, weather, rain fall and humidity, which it is hoped will not only cut pollution from over-spraying but also save farmers money.

NICK NUTTALL

How to get wired up for the new year

Chris Partridge explains just what you get for your web fees

IF FATHER Christmas brought you a computer you have probably already assembled it, plugged it in and typed a few sample letters. But if you've got the hardware then you will also be itching to surf the net.

But how do you get connected? And, more important, how do you choose from the many servers who want your money?

The first part is easy. To get on the Internet, you will need three basic things: a computer, a modem that connects the computer to the telephone system, and software for linking into the net.

The computer is simple. Any recent model will do, though the more powerful the better. A top-of-the-range Pentium processor will download graphics significantly faster than some other models.

The computer should also have as much short-term memory called ram (random access memory) as possible: 8 megabytes is usual, 16 megabytes is better.

The modem is simple as well. Get a known brand, as fast as you can afford. The standard today is 14.4 kilobits per second, but 28.8kbs will be the norm very soon. This is where a little homework pays dividends, so check the speed of the modems at the Internet service you are interested in. The modem at both ends of a link must operate at the same speed, so there is no point in spending a lot of extra money on a fast modem if your service provider cannot keep up with it.

Now for the choice of Internet provider, which is a lot harder.

John Moroney, senior consultant with analysts Ovum and author of a recent report on the information superhighway, explains: "There are three types of Internet provider, or IP. There is the online service provider, such as America OnLine and CompuServe, which are managed services, so if you put a piece of e-mail into the system it is their responsibility to deal with it.

"Then there are Internet providers which are just a pipe to the Internet, and the management of mail is out of your hands. The other category is the leased line service, but that is for commercial operations only. Dial-up access is only for the technically astute."

Each service provider supplies its own software to the net and whatever other services it may offer, such as news lines, weather reports and e-mail.

Ease of use and flexibility vary a great deal, which is why it is worth taking up the various free trial offers that systems offer.

The software supplied by each service consists of three basic parts, the e-mail viewer, the news group software and the Internet browser. The Internet browser is the part that enables you to search the World Wide Web for the sites of interest, download the pages and view them.

The most common browser is Netscape, although other common ones are Mosaic and Spyglass. The Microsoft Internet Explorer is the latest and set to become huge because it is compulsory on the Microsoft Network.

At present, browsers are developing so fast it is difficult to predict which will come out on top. Unfortunately, some web pages are also getting so complex they can only be accessed by the latest versions of specific browsers. So you might be better off going to Netscape.

As to the costs of surfing the net, the good news is that prices are falling. "A year ago CompuServe was charging a lot of money for services, but now it is a straight connection charge. They have discovered that people want cheap communications," says Moroney.

Try all the free offers before you buy

CompuServe is the biggest system, with a worldwide presence. It is easy to use and costs £6.50 a month, with extra charges of 5p a minute for extended services and more for special services. Its drawback is that your name tag is a number, though that could soon change.

U-Net is good for small businesses as it offers a range of services from single modem access to full network links over digital phone lines. The EasyOneIP modem access service includes your own 500k web page and costs £12 to join, then £12 a month or £100 a year.

Pipex Dial is easy to install and easy to use, with a setup fee of £50 plus an annual subscription of £160 or £15 a month.

Microsoft Network (MSN) is already one of the biggest servers, despite being in existence only since the launch of Windows 95. The software comes with Windows 95. E-mail (Microsoft Exchange) is exceptionally easy to use. Very attractive if you are already a Windows 95 user.

Europe OnLine is a new service becoming operational in the Spring, although 20 hours' free access is available now to get people signed up. Needs Version 3 of Netscape, also being distributed free.

Once you've chosen your server, you're ready to enter the Internet. And that's where the fun really begins.

Staff at The Mann Organisation pride themselves on recycling more than 95 per cent of obsolete computer hardware — not just the precious chips

Where do computers go when they die?

There's no such thing as a decent burial for toxic hardware, **Chris Ward** reports

Next year around one million personal computers will be thrown away to make room for the latest, fastest and most up-to-date operating systems to be installed in Britain's offices and home studies. Together they will take up landfill sites the size of several football pitches, weigh about 2,000 tonnes and spend the next couple of centuries quietly leaching various toxic chemicals — including arsenic — into the ground.

At the same time thousands of community groups, charities, youth organisations and schools will be scrimping and saving to buy computer systems of their own, begging and borrowing equipment to make their operations more efficient and enabling the technological have-nots to learn the ways of what is becoming an increasingly wired world.

Many big companies who are upgrading their computer systems have no idea what to do with their old machines and are alarmed when they discover how much it can cost simply to throw them away. Although a number of recyclers will take old computers and strip them of useful parts and remove valuable metals from the printed circuit boards (including gold, platinum and silver) this can make up less than 1 per cent of the average machine, and does little to reduce the bulk thrown away.

Now there are a number of schemes to help those trying to get rid of their old computers. One way is to donate them to good causes instead of throwing them away. It costs nothing to give the computer away, and can even be a tax-deductible charitable donation.

A good starting point for the would-be charitable corporation is Waste Watch, whose Wasteline telephone helpline can give general advice on how to recycle computers and point them towards deserving causes.

"We have links with a number of organisations who will take your obsolete old computer which won't run the new software packages you wish to use, then pass it on to a good cause," says spokeswoman Jenny Watson. "Just because the computer isn't good enough for you doesn't mean it isn't good enough for others."

Some local authorities, including the Corporation of the City of London and Worthing Borough and West Sussex County Councils, also run schemes to pass on computer equipment.

There are also a number of charitable organisations which will either take in unwanted computers and refurbish them or which act as intermediaries, advising companies on how best to recycle their PCs, particularly on what to do about software.

Most donor organisations simply wipe clean each hard disk to avoid the possibility of secret information falling into the wrong hands and to make sure they don't fall foul of the Data Protection Act. But this leaves the recipients with a machine that will not do anything unless new software is introduced.

"We have one scheme where the corporation concerned has done a deal with Microsoft to allow them to put DOS and Works back on to the hard disk," says Penny Shepherd of Business in the Community. "Another company has done a deal to use the PFS integrated package."

BiC has taken computers from a number of City companies such as the Swiss Banking Corporation and merchant bankers Warburgs and passed them on to schools in South London.

"We work to set up sustainable schemes," says Shepherd. "We do do some one-off schemes where someone can take a couple of dozen machines in one go, but we concentrate more on setting up long-term links between a company and, say, a school or charity which can take their old machines over a period of years."

London-based Inter-Action has worked with companies such as Price Waterhouse and Abbey National to refurbish and clean up their old 286 and, increasingly these days, 386 computers to pass them on to charities working with the homeless, the Salvation Army and youth training organisations.

"We actually lease out the computers to organisations so that, if anything goes wrong, we fix them so people don't have to worry about maintaining the computers," says technician Pete Monk. "Sometimes they only need cleaning but others have bits missing and I might take parts from two machines to make one good one. In an average month we pass on about 20-30 computers."

But eventually there comes a time in every computer's life when it cannot be used again by anyone simply because spare parts cannot be obtained. The EU has recently designated electronic waste a Priority Waste Stream and a directive is expected soon requiring all member countries to set up mechanisms for its safe recovery. That means the safe disposal of computers will soon be an issue Britain will have to face.

The Mann Organisation, a recycling company based in Ross-on-Wye in Herefordshire, and UK Waste in High Wycombe are already working on ways to recover as many materials from computers as possible.

Obvious parts like RAM and processor chips can be re-used either in new computers or, increasingly, in electronic toys being manufactured in India and the Far East. Fans and power supply units can also be refurbished and reused, with the remainder of the machine shredded and then melted down to recover precious metals, aluminium and other metals.

But nobody in Britain has reached the height of sophistication attained by one organisation in Salem, Massachusetts. The company specialises in recycling the little polystyrene "peanuts" computers arrive packed in.

Business in the Community, 8 Stratton Street London WIX 6AH; Industry Council for Electronic Equipment Recycling, 6 Bath Place, Rivington Street, London EC2A 3JE; The Mann Organisation, Ashburton Industrial Estate, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire HR9 7BW; UK Waste, Castle Estate, Turnpike Road, High Wycombe, Bucks HP12 3NR; Waste Watch, Gresham House, 24 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 2BN.

Fans are over the moon on the net

SOCCER fans used to go to the pub after a match, then moan or celebrate their team's fortunes. But these days they are just as likely to go home to their computers in order to swap news and views about the game.

Since the Carling Net site was launched in November thousands of supporters from all over the world have been dialling in to check out news of the 20 Premier League clubs. Calls have come from expatriates as far afield as Japan and New Zealand.

"We recently had 79,000 hits on a single Monday, which made us one of the No 1 web sites for that day," boasts Tony Meehan, who set up the Internet site when a temporary posting to Indonesia left him pining for information about his beloved Manchester City. "I was desperate for news of the club's battle against relegation and there was no reliable way of keeping up to date with developments," he says.

He set up a company, Hercules Communications, secured the financial backing of league sponsor Carling and won over the support of clubs including Leeds, Liverpool and Manchester United.

Carling Net (*http://www.FA-Carling.com*) now carries a daily updated news and results service for all Premiership clubs. It is also licensed to act as an official merchandising agent for 13 clubs, promoting sales of everything from club home and away strips to match-day ticket sales.

"The only merchandise being promoted at this stage are the official clubs' home and away strips but it is a side of the business which is bound to expand," says Meehan.

He prides himself on keeping pace with soccer news. "We get our information from the Press Association at 11.30 every morning, which means that if a manager changes jobs or a player moves on we have a good chance of being first with the news," he says. "We also have a reporter at every game and this guarantees us a full report within 15 minutes of the final whistle."

For all the up-to-the minute buzz of the Carling Net site, however, many fans prefer to log into a club's own page.

"The individual club sites score because they can offer an 'I was there' fan's eye view of games," says Ian Grant, a lifelong Arsenal supporter who maintains a news round-up slot on one of his team's four web sites. "The surprising thing is the extent to which Arsenal are followed around the world. I get regular e-mail from Bahrain, Hong Kong and Peru."

Meanwhile Liverpool has an online supporters' club run from the other side of the world. Alex Brown, who lives in Dunedin, New Zealand, is a devoted fan of "the mighty reds" and offers a complete package on the team.

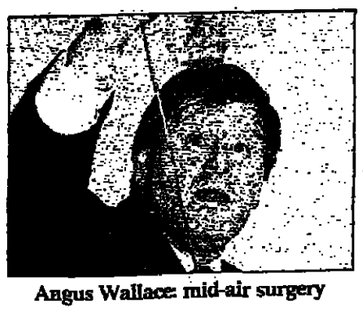
Apart from archives, reports of matches and pictures, the site (*anfield@deepsouth.co.nz*) includes a tour of Anfield, ticket updates and even an assortment of poems about Liverpool. "I will never shirk from my responsibility to the fans," says Brown.

CHRISTIAN DARKIN

INTERFACE

The tabloid Interface section will be back in The Times on January 10

Take-off for the world's first virtual flying doctor



Angus Wallace: mid-air surgery

DASHING home after an accident abroad, or having surgery aboard an aeroplane with a coathanger and a bottle of Evian, will soon be a thing of the past. Researchers at the University of Edinburgh have just been given £2.5 million to look at the issues involved in setting up a worldwide telemedicine network.

Together with partners in Greece, Germany, Portugal and Belgium, the three-year Hermes project will assess the feasibility of scanning pregnant mothers at home, having ill passengers on flights monitored remotely and giving doctors abroad access to full medical records of holidaymakers before embarking on emergency surgery.

British Airways is another UK partner. Their interest lies in averting onboard emergencies by having ill passengers monitored by experts on the ground.

"At the moment messages get relayed through the cabin crew to doctors on the ground, which is obviously not ideal," says Dr Andrew Lamb from Edinburgh University. Accurate monitoring also reduces the need for diverting flights at great cost in the case of a false alarm.

Also participating are Huntley Nisbet Evans, which is developing portable monitoring equipment, the John Radcliffe Hospital at Oxford University, and HealthSkills, a company specialising in quality assurance in healthcare.

Ethical questions of a worldwide network will also be addressed.

"Such a network would mean sending patients' records to other countries, so we need to address the question of security," says Dr Lamb.

"Another thing we'll be looking at is whether health workers are able to interpret the information they receive correctly, because although doctors have the medical know-how not all of them will have the requisite technical knowledge."

The project will attempt to sort out some standards in telemedicine, so that it can become part of normal healthcare provision. There are many individual projects providing remote links between patients and doctors. "But if doctors gets terminals in their surgery, we would like to make sure there is an infrastructure to plug them into," Dr Lamb says.

ANJANA AHUJA

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
8,860.50	ABN-AMRO	2821¼	+ 46¼	4.4	10.8
8,342.40	Abbey Nat	632	- 3	3.8	12.7
2,311.00	Allied Irish	347	- 11	4.2	10.1
4,196.80	Aus New Z	302	+ 6	5.3	..
14,373.10	Bank America	4106¼	- 31¾	..	..
3,373.00	Bank Scotland	281	- 2½	2.7	12.4
12,116.30	Barclays	747	- 23½	3.8	10.2
2,222.80	Bk of Ireland†	487½	- 12½	3.6	9.4
739.90	Cater Allen†	429	- 8	8.7	7.1
16,617.40	Chicorp	4368¾	+ 125	..	..
389.50	Close Bros	349	- 4	3.4	14.1
5,431.20	Commerzbk	£151¾	- 106¾	3.6	..
39,814.80	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1275	+ 31¼	0.4	..
14,641.30	Deutsche Bk	3078¼	- 71½	2.4	..
128.50	Espirito Santo	600	- 18½	5.9	8.0
44,177.40	Fuji Bank Y	1524¾	+ 71	0.4	..
216.70	Gerrard Nat	444	- 9	6.3	14.3
348.30	Hambros	197	- 3	4.8	..
8,600.00	HSBC	1000	+ 2	3.5	13.0
17,341.80	HSBC HK	977	..	3.6	12.7
304.50	Irish Perm	400	..	3.0	9.2
23.70	Joseph (L)†	448	- 12	5.2	26.0
36.20	King Shaxson	141	..	8.2	10.6
11,047.00	Lloyds	842	- 22	4.0	12.9
6,381.60	Nat Aust Bk	587	+ 5	6.8	..
11,598.10	Nat West	656	+ 3	4.3	10.2
125.00	Ottoman Bank	2500	..	6.6	3.4
31.90	Rea Brothers	86	+ 1½	1.9	26.4
4,629.80	Royal Bk Scot†	573	- 23½	3.5	13.0
1,967.50	Schroders	1303	- 35	1.4	18.6
483.10	Schroders N/V	1098	- 37	1.6	15.6
214.40	Singer & Fried	109	- 1½	4.2	11.3
5,286.50	Stand Chart	545	- 29	2.1	13.7
6,082.00	TSB	397½	- 7	3.6	13.8
25.50	Union	96	- 4	3.9	..
7,060.00	Wells Fargo	£137¾	- 425	2.2	..
4,865.40	Westpac	266¾	+ ¼	5.1	..
23.60	Wintrust	275	+ 5	5.4	15.5

BREWERIES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
72.30	Ascot Hldgs	262	- 3	..	0.5
6,179.40	Bass†	703	- 4	4.0	..
568.70	Boddington	466	+ 17	2.4	24.0
36.30	Burtonwood Brwy	174½	- 1½	3.9	16.9
38.90	Eldridge P 'A'	186	- 4	3.1	..
85.30	Fuller Sm 'A'	418	+ 2	2.6	17.8
1,682.50	Greenalls Grp	589	+ 28	3.2	..
265.00	Greene King	625	- 3	2.9	16.6
59.20	Hardy Hanson	396	+ 10	4.4	..
3.58	Heavitree	155	..	4.5	10.9
96.30	Holt J	3105	- 3	2.2	16.6
202.80	Marchfield	314	- 2	2.1	15.8
275.40	Marston Thmpt	307	+ 1	3.0	14.5
145.50	Mortandt	585	+ 5	2.8	..
7.41	Paramount	6½	-	4.4	10.0
104.00	Regent Inns	658	- 27	1.3	25.9
7,031.90	S&A Brewerie	2387½	+ 75	1.5	32.0
3,708.70	Scot & New	606	- 10	3.9	16.1
	Scot & New P/P	330			
93.70	Tom Cobleigh	210	+ 10	1.6	34.1
379.60	Vaux Group	270	+ 21	4.8	13.8
233.10	Wetherspoon JD	637	- 2	1.6	25.9
3,200.50	Whitbread†	664	+ 3	3.8	16.4
392.10	Wolvrhmptn D	587	+ 20	3.3	..
119.40	Yates Bros	303	- 1	1.3	26.8
12.60	Young 'A'	436	..	4.3	17.7

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
54.20	Abbey	140	..	4.7	9.1
71.40	Allen†	221	+ 17	3.4	16.5
194.40	Amec†	91	- 5	4.1	19.2
36.50	Andrews Sykes	255	..	..	..
156.30	Ashtead	173	+ 6	1.8	17.1
13.90	Avonside	32	- 3	12.9	5.1
2.62	Bailey (Ben) Con	25	..	5.2	6.1
16.20	Barcom	35	- 2	1.1	..
453.80	Barratt Devs	246	+ 5	3.8	15.3
494.20	Beazer Homes	176	+ 2½	4.2	12.6
248.50	Bellway	252	+ 1	3.9	11.9
8.12	Belwinch	18	- 1	1.4	9.7
378.30	Berkeley Gp	488	- 1	2.0	15.1
25.80	Bett Brost	172	- 1½	3.9	6.2
51.30	Boot (Henry)	190	- 3	4.7	8.9
20.20	Brandon Hirst	93	+ 3	3.0	16.6
5.24	Britannia Grp	23	..	8.7	4.5
4.48	Br Bldg & Eng	40	..	25.0	5.5
307.60	Bryant	110	+ ½	5.7	10.0
37.90	CALA	88	- 23	4.5	8.5
2.45	Campbell & Arm	17	- 1	..	13.5
5.17	Clarke T	42	- 7	4.2	15.1
37.80	Costain	73	+ 1	..	..
44.30	Countryside	58	- 3	6.2	..
54.90	Crest Nicholson	55½	- 3½	4.5	7.8
13.90	Cussins	78	- 2	6.1	8.8
16.50	Eve Group	168	..	6.7	9.0
16.00	Galliford	18	- 1	6.9	36.6
74.90	Gleeson (MJ)†	738	..	2.5	14.0
4.62	Gram (Ernst)	60	..	10.6	36.1
71.30	Havelock Euro	271	- 1	1.5	22.8
370.90	Hewden-Stuart	134	- ½	2.6	14.2
54.90	Higgs & Hill	83	..	3.8	70.5
3.96	Howard Hldgs	15	..	6.7	17.5
9.94	Jarvis	23½	+ 1	..	..
79.50	Kaflite	142	- 1	3.4	13.8
121.20	Laing (J)	264	+ 12	4.3	32.6
42.00	Laing 6.4% Cv Pf	104½	+ ½	7.7	..
5.97	Lovell (YJ)	15	- 2	..	..
47.20	Maunders (J)	189	+ 3	3.8	10.0
102.30	McAlpine (A)	148	+ 5	5.1	15.9
65.10	McCarthy & St	66	+ 1½	3.8	..
26.10	Morgan Sindall	82	+ 4	1.3	..
81.90	Morrison Cons	122	..	4.4	11.9
103.10	Mowlem (J)	99	..	4.2	29.4
122.80	Persimmon	199	+ 1	6.0	13.8
20.80	Pochins	100	..	2.6	12.2
86.70	Prowting†	111	..	4.3	14.8
32.00	Raine Ind	17	+ 3	3.7	..
4.94	Secure Retire	48	..	2.6	9.1
296.80	Redrow	134	..	2.9	12.4
35.70	Sherriff Hldgs†	319	- 3½	2.7	..
4.80	Shorco	73	+ 1	6.8	11.2
114.00	Spandex†	353	..	1.0	22.5
43.50	Tay Homes	149	..	5.9	10.2
459.00	Taylor Woodrw	119	..	2.4	22.7
148.70	Tilbury Dougls	440	- 3	8.4	15.0
5.31	Torex Hire	32	..	5.1	13.7
8.33	Trencherwood	10	..	4.1	..
7.27	Try Group	18½	..	6.0	14.7
33.70	Vibroplant†	73	..	6.9	5.5
62.20	Wainhomes†	100	..	5.6	9.3
26.80	Ward Hldgs	51	+ 5	3.7	11.4
119.20	Westbury†	179	- 1	4.3	13.3
20.90	Wiggins	4¾	+	..	29.2
316.30	Wilson (C)	160	+ 4	3.5	11.9
329.70	Wilson Bowdn	393	+ 1	3.6	12.9
512.90	Wimpey G	142	+ 9	4.8	20.7

BUILDING MATERIALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
8.70	Albrighton	12	- ¼	..	..
161.80	Alumasc	400	- 15	2.2	17.3
1,492.40	BPB Ind†	296	- 2	3.9	13.7
46.30	Baggeridge Bri	114	- 3	3.5	..
178.10	Barcom	32	..	7.8	15.6
11.70	Blockleys	47	+ 2	1.1	..
2,462.90	Blue Circle	336	+ 7½	4.4	15.3
31.90	Breedon PLC	77	..	7.8	10.7
18.90	Br Dredging	108	+ 1	6.5	14.1
1,694.80	CRH	481	- 9	2.2	18.0
2.28	Cakebread Rby	38	..	3.3	..
75.80	Cape	140	- 6	9.8	10.9
1,169.20	Caradon	195	+ 20	6.1	10.1
193.50	Caradon pf	107½	+ 2	8.4	..
1.55	Chieftain Gp	18	- 1	13.9	..
2.84	Dyson (J&J)	178	- 7	2.8	14.7
11.20	Dyson 'A'	82	- 1	6.1	6.8
29.10	EcGase Blinds	87	- 2	..	..
51.20	Epwin	237	+ 1	4.7	12.8
15.50	Flare	121	- 12	..	..
1.56	Gibbs & Dandy	91½	- 1½	4.4	..
278.00	Graham Gp	199	..	3.4	17.4
119.30	Halstead (J)	381	+ 2	2.7	17.2
743.60	Hepworth	305	..	6.1	14.1
3.63	Hewetson	39	- 2	8.2	8.1
226.00	Heywd Wlm	232	+ 1	7.4	11.9
185.10	Ibstock	66½	..	3.3	11.0
35.80	Johnston	335	..	3.8	7.8
25.10	Lilleshall	88	- 1	6.9	10.5
379.00	Marley	113	..	5.2	9.9
177.50	Marshalls	143	+ 2	4.4	10.2
490.40	Meyer Intl	368	+ 5	3.7	14.7
152.10	Newman Tnks	119	+ 6	7.2	10.7
152.10	Norcros	87	+ 7	..	..
5.93	Phoenix Timber	17	..	..	16.2
2,014.00	Pilkington▼	201	- 4½	3.0	15.9
270.70	Polypipe	172	+ 2	1.9	16.1
2,467.60	RMC Gp	996	- 9	2.7	13.6
1.20	Ramus	5	..	..	..
2,029.30	Redland	391	+ 14	5.3	12.0
17.00	Rockel	95	..	5.7	9.9
69.90	Rubberoid	143	- 2	5.3	11.6
695.20	Rugby Group	105	+ ¼	4.1	14.1
26.30	Russell (A)	113	..	2.9	15.5
162.20	SIG	201	- 6	3.9	11.1
2.89	SNP	11½	..	..	..
33.10	Sharpe & Fisher	157	..	4.0	12.5
113.40	Spring Ram	25	+ ½	2.5	..
985.30	Tarmac	106½	+ 4½	6.5	16.1
11.30	Tilbo	103	..	5.9	..
360.90	Travis Perkns	350	..	3.2	14.7
3.27	Tudor	30	..	3.1	17.8
1.75	Waterhouse	50	..	..	..
361.80	Wickes	129	..	1.9	22.9
2,356.40	Wolseley†	445	- 5	2.8	15.0

BUSINESS SERVICES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
6.83	Anglo Utd	0¾	..	..	..
25.90	Acco Hldg	98	- 5	..	..
3.58	Bailey (CH)	6½	+ ¼	..	..
9.71	Black Arrow†	39	..	9.9	6.8
3.65	Br Bloodstock	89	+ 1	..	28.7
3.15	Card Gp	3¼	..	..	..
3.69	Chemex	6½	..	2.8	..
17.50	Cosalt	151	- 2	7.5	..
76.10	Filofax	258	- 1	1.1	17.7
5.15	Headway	32	..	..	29.1
102.60	Hozelock	431	+ 1	2.6	16.5
66.80	Leigh†	101	+ 7	8.2	11.9
23.70	Isotron Gp	134	..	5.8	8.8
92.90	Photo-Me†	153	+ 3	4.1	13.4
17.90	Plant & Genl	56	..	6.0	6.1
1.86	Rodime	7¾	..	..	..
163.90	Shanks & McEwan†	69	- 1	3.8	18.4
39.50	Sinclair (Wm)	181	- 4	5.2	13.9
34.90	Superscape VR	415	- 25	..	..
1,292.70	Waste Mgt Intl	331	+ 3	..	12.7
42.80	Waste Recyg	129	- 5	1.2	28.0

CHEMICALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
462.80	Allergan S Wil	154	..	4.9	16.3
718.30	Allied Colloids	139	+ 6	2.4	20.5
32.90	Amber Indt	210	+ 3	3.4	13.7
41.20	Amberley Gp	68	- 4	2.4	19.5
6,454.90	BASF DM	£144½	+ 162½	3.1	..
4,290.50	BOC†	892	- 14	3.8	17.2
434.60	BTP	265	+ 1	5.3	15.2
11,771.90	Bayer DM50	£169¾	+ 100	3.5	..
102.50	Blagden	143	- 1	..	..
46.60	Brent Chems	69	..	5.8	18.9
463.10	Br Vita	211	- 4	4.7	13.4
80.40	Carrang (W)	212	- 18	4.6	13.6
1,636.20	Courtaulds†	404	+ 12	3.8	18.5
443.60	Croda	333	- 2	3.4	14.5
30.20	Doeflex	208	..	3.5	13.5
242.60	Ellis & Everard	246	- 3	4.3	14.3
32.10	Euro Colourt	87	- 2	2.9	20.2
19.40	Gibbs	192	+ 10	4.3	15.0
135.50	Hickson	77	- 2	6.7	7.3
10,244.00	Hoechst	£173¼	+ 484¾	3.0	..
171.70	Holliday Chem	164	- 5	3.8	11.7
5,937.50	ICI	750	+ 18½	4.8	14.3
383.60	Inspec	330	..	1.8	23.0
293.10	Kalon	111	+ 4	5.2	12.6
1,249.40	Laporte	647	- 3	4.4	13.3
28.90	LIMU	78	..	2.6	14.0
112.60	Macders	287	- 1	4.9	12.8
8.92	Metrotect	37	..	5.1	13.8
23,373.30	Monsanto	439¾	+ 30¼	4.7	19.5
86.10	Porvair	350	- 15	1.8	26.6
522.50	Scapa†	220	- 3	3.5	15.7
13.20	Sutcliffe Speakm	27	..	2.2	33.2
9,150.50	Takeda Chem	1048¾	+ 34¼	0.8	13.9
58.50	Wellington Hdg	248	..	3.4	19.0
73.70	Wardlaw	985	..	2.8	16.7
116.80	Yorks Chem	255	- 1	4.2	12.5
109.00	Yule Catto	305	- 3	3.0	16.1

DISTRIBUTORS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
30.70	ABI Ltd	93	..	5.8	9.5
18.90	Adam & Harvey†	440	- 23	5.6	5.8
6.45	Alexanders	16	- 1	5.5	36.3
62.50	Appleyard	94	+ 1	8.0	10.1
9.19	Ass Br Eng	3¼	..	2.1	28.5
136.80	BSS Group†	520	- 15	4.7	14.9
53.50	Bandt	38	..	..	..
5.84	Bearing Power†	16½	..	9.5	..
1.25	Bogod 'A'	26	..	3.4	9.2
195.70	Bramner	431	..	3.9	16.6
4.67	Bridgend Gp†	17	- ¼	1.5	..
19.30	Brit Fittings	81	- 1	4.9	12.3
8.09	Caffyns†	245	..	5.9	16.9
10.30	Central Mtr	75	..	4.6	20.4
24.00	Cook (DC)	58	- 1	3.8	8.1
467.80	Cowie	290	- 3	4.1	12.5
30.50	Dag Motors	126	..	7.1	10.4
22.10	Dennans El	503	..	1.9	11.1
218.60	Diploma†	391	+ 15½	4.6	..
1,475.60	Electrocomp†	349	- 11	2.1	23.7
151.90	Eurodis Elec	261	- 3	2.0	18.1
34.30	Eurodollar	70	..	14.6	4.0
50.90	European Mtrt	95	- 2	6.8	8.2
91.80	Evans Halshaw	286	..	6.8	8.9
961.80	Farnell Elect	705	- 20½	1.7	20.5
10.20	Fife Indma	66	..	6.2	10.8
18.30	Gardiner	17	- 1	6.0	7.5
10.40	Glencheworth	34½	- 2	1.1	..
2.91	Gowrings	88	..	3.3	14.3
23.70	Hants (Phillip)†	217	+ 1½	4.2	13.8
90.30	Headlam	217	+ 16	2.4	19.0
261.90	Henlys	497	+ 1	2.5	18.5
4.15	Holders Tech	133	- 1	5.6	25.3
61.20	ISA Intl	153	- 1	1.3	16.7
1,304.20	Inchcape†	247	+ 14	7.8	22.4
6.48	Jacks (Wm)	60	..	1.6	11.4
288.70	Kwik-Fit	167	- 5	3.4	14.3
345.00	Lex Service	305	+ 3	5.9	16.2
29.10	Lookers	149	..	6.4	8.2
18.60	Malaya Grp	11½	..	5.2	15.5
62.70	Middlesex	8¼	+ ¼	0.7	20.1
20.60	Midstates	39	..	..	5.5
50.40	Norbain†	485	- 5½	1.9	16.7
43.50	Northamber	256	- 2	0.8	20.5
12.20	PCT	137	..	7.0	9.8
104.40	Pendragon	272	- 1	3.9	14.2
36.90	Perry Gp	146	- 1	6.5	11.0
31.20	Quicks Group	135	- 5	5.3	11.5
16.50	REA	185	..	2.7	22.0
4.87	Reeco	2¾	..	..	..
25.10	Ronson	56	..	2.6	11.4
4.43	Ross Gp	3	- ¼	..	..
49.00	SEP Indl	54½	- 3½	3.7	..
31.10	Saltire	12	- ¾	..	6.8
31.60	TLS	70	- 1	3.3	11.9
132.40	Time Products†	248	- 1	4.7	14.5
128.00	Vardy (Reg)	273	..	2.6	17.3
46.50	Wholesale Ftgs	325	..	4.5	20.3
51.60	Wilshaw†	55½	..	1.8	13.2
38.20	Wyko	75	- 3	2.1	74.6
18.10	Young (H)†	109	- 3¼	4.5	..

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
98.10	Adwest	119	+ 1	8.2	9.5
460.50	Antofagasta	298	..	1.9	13.8
16,876.90	Broken Hill	926	+ 6	2.6	21.3
11,972.90	BTR	317½	- 3	5.4	13.8
17,551.20	BAT†	568	+ 17½	5.0	12.9
286.50	Berisford Intl	189	+ 8	2.0	..
179.70	Bibby (J)†	115	..	6.2	9.3
1,352.10	Bnerley Inv	50¾	..	8.6	2.8
726.50	Charter	836	+ 21	3.7	13.5
2,040.00	Cookson	308	+ 5½	3.9	19.1
92.40	Grampian Hdg	133	- 1	5.5	15.0
9,909.10	Hanson†	191	+ 3¼	7.9	10.4
1,080.10	Harrisn Crsfld	152	+ 6	7.4	16.1
14,067.10	Hutch Whamp	388¾	+ 12	2.0	20.7
3,139.60	Jardine Math	437	+ 16½	3.7	8.7
4.86	Jourdan (T)†	27	..	5.8	7.3
1,386.80	Lonrho	178½	+ 6	3.2	24.6
102.20	McLeod Russel†	167	- 2	4.8	..
37.80	Porter Chadbrn	40	- 1	..	13.6
361.40	Powell Duffryn†	444	- 4	7.0	18.2
33.30	Ropner	145	- 1	7.1	10.0
3,593.10	Sime Darby†	170	+ 4	2.8	15.6
225.30	Staveley†	196	- 1	5.4	13.4
195.50	Suter	168½	- 3½	7.3	11.1
430.70	TT Group	289	+ 2	2.6	15.1
3,240.50	Tomkins	273	- 7½	4.6	15.2
247.80	Trafalgar H	29	- 1½	..	..
57.40	Unitare	295	..	7.7	..
91.30	Wardle Storeys†	358	- 12	6.0	19.1
489.80	Wassall	253	+ 6	2.2	14.4
84.30	Whitecroft	182	+ 4	2.9	14.3
1,867.60	Williams Hldg	322	+ ½	5.3	15.0

ELECTRICITY

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,372.90	East Midlands	692	- 11	5.4	9.2
2,432.50	Eastern Grp	973	- 1	3.6	13.0
1,388.30	London Elect	699	+ 25½	5.6	9.1
1,436.70	Midlands Elec	753	- 8½	6.2	9.4
3,355.10	National Grid	199	- 4	7.1	8.9
5,114.30	National Power†	451	+ 15	4.6	9.3
5,935.70	Natl Power P/P†	157	+ 12	4.5	9.5
827.00	Northern Elec▼	634	+ 46	6.9	6.3
614.10	Nthn Ireland	438	+ 4	4.2	8.6
1,589.20	Norweb	1020	+ 3	3.5	10.7
3,867.50	PowerGen	534	+ 22	4.0	9.8
1,359.90	PowerGen (P/P)	218	+ 19	3.9	11.8
1,363.90	Hydro-Elect	355	- 2	5.1	9.7
3,418.00	Scottish Power	364	+ 1	5.0	10.6
1,295.70	Seeboard	529	+ 6	3.4	11.3
877.00	Sth Wales	945	+ 5	4.5	9.8
2,504.40	Southern Elec	914	+ 6	4.5	11.7
1,243.00	Yorkshire Elec	673	+ 9	6.6	7.2

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
106.90	Acal†	554	- 18	1.7	20.1
215.70	Acorn Comp	240	+ 9	..	..
102.70	Admiral	828	- 25	1.3	21.7
132.40	Alba	380	+ 2	2.4	18.1
253.00	Amstrad	217	- 10½	1.4	..
26.00	Arlen	35	+ 1	2.1	12.1
353.30	Astec	114½	- 4½	1.4	17.8
135.80	Azlan	505	- 10	0.8	22.5
973.80	BICC†	275	+ 5	5.7	16.2
23.30	Beales Hunter	220	+ 5	5.8	11.8
140.30	Bick	457	+ 2	3.6	..
803.00	Bowthorpe	415	- 9	2.8	18.9
8.17	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	23¾	- ¼	2.1	9.4
24.70	CML Micro	133	- 1	5.7	13.9
24.60	Chemel Hldgs	27	..	6.1	7.6
56.40	Chloride†	33¾	..	1.8	30.0
13.50	Clayhithe	73	+ 1	5.4	12.2
90.10	Cray Elect	38	- 9	4.9	..
92.10	Critchley†	644	+ 3½	1.9	22.0
1,077.90	Danka Bs Syst	543	+ 19	0.5	29.3
589.40	Delta	394	- 5	5.0	13.6
107.60	Domino	403	- 5	3.1	13.2
95.60	Dowding Mills	64	..	5.4	17.0
184.80	Druck	2576	+ 12	0.6	33.8
1,911.10	Electrolux 'B'	2684¾	- 93¾	4.5	4.2
33.60	Eness	31¼	- ½	0.4	..
11,525.00	Ericsson 'B'	1318¾	+ 68¾	3.3	9.3
35.10	Eurocopy	72	- 2	4.1	..
486.50	Eurotherm	543	- 26	1.7	..
434.40	Farcy Group	531	- 2	1.7	22.3
188.90	Fitronic Com	450	- 2	0.2	72.0
86.00	Forward Gp†	625	- 50	1.3	26.9
31.10	Forward Tech	90	- 2	3.5	12.6
9,446.30	GEC†	343	+ 23	4.2	16.0
82.00	Graseby	127	- 1	6.5	11.6
44.10	Ind Control	109	+ 10	4.1	21.6
10.30	Intelek	25½	..	3.7	32.4
105.10	Kenwood App	229	- 3	5.5	10.1
9.21	Kode	97	- 4	..	..
3.06	LPA Ind	34	..	6.2	24.2
50.70	MTL Inst	280	..	2.1	15.6
126.50	Memory Sn	248	+ 5	2.6	16.3
37.10	Microvitec	49	- 1½	2.0	16.5
437.10	Mitel	413	- 17	..	..
199.10	Oxford Inst	403	- 3	1.8	15.9
8.13	Pacer Systems	173	+ 5	2.4	22.8
119.20	Pentl	99	- 1½	4.3	16.0
8,046.40	Philips Lmp nv	2378¾	+ 90¾	2.1	9.4
19.80	Pifco	306	- 5	3.0	12.9
13.50	Pifco 'A' Vtg	196	- 5	3.2	12.2
6.77	Plasmec	141	+ 1	4.0	11.3
54.30	Pressac	146	- 1	3.0	..
15.70	Prestwick	38½	+ 2½	..	15.3
182.90	Psion	785	- 70	0.6	33.2
6.38	Quadrant Grp	17	+ 1	1.8	47.5
797.80	Racal Elect	283	+ 13	2.4	21.7
14.60	Radamec	79	- 1	3.5	17.5
91.90	Ranford†	385½	+ 3½	0.6	21.7
150.10	Roxboro	268	- 3	2.5	13.2
4.73	Scantronic	9	..	..	..
37.10	Stremanes	58	+ 3	2.3	15.4
3.23	Soundtracs	32	- 1	9.8	9.2
60.80	Stoves	244	+ 4	2.3	17.3
1.37	TDS Circuits	6½	- ½	..	..
4,219.80	TDK	3309¾	- 25	1.0	..
18.40	Tadpole Tech	70	- 5	..	..
114.60	Telemetrix	125	- 19	1.2	17.8
20.10	TGI	93	+ 1	3.9	10.9
256.10	Telspec	808	- 78	0.6	45.2
30.70	Thorpe FW	238	- 4	2.1	14.5
289.70	TLG†	162	..	1.9	17.5
2.12	Total Systems	21	- 1	..	21.6
101.00	Tunstall	307	- 7	1.8	..
344.10	Unitech	493	- 16	1.9	18.1
29.60	Verity	12½	..	1.0	19.9
120.80	Volex	436	+ 5	5.6	15.4
4.33	Wattsbourne	19	- 4	..	2.7
47.10	Whessoe	159	+ 2	3.6	..

ENGINEERING

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
43.50	AIM	298	- 2	1.9	..
219.00	APV†	74	..	5.2	..
72.90	ASW	67½	- 1	9.0	4.2
17.10	Aero Hamble	30	..	..	..
76.70	Alvis†	138	- 1½	1.8	..
66.90	Ash & Lacy	176	+ 5	4.6	12.3
67.40	Attec Group	648	+ 3	4.2	22.7
12.60	Ayrshire Metal	126	..	5.5	7.2
73.60	B Group	101	..	5.9	12.9
239.80	Babcock†	141	- 2	2.3	..
63.60	BM†	133	- 2	6.9	12.6
151.70	Baynes (Charles)	98	- 2	2.8	17.0
10.70	Beauford	24	- 2	2.3	5.8
1.52	Billam	95	..	7.0	..
240.20	Bodycote†	412	..	1.8	21.0
1.60	Booth Inds	40	..	..	..
14.30	Brasway	18	- ½	4.4	17.2
87.80	Brdon▼	119	- 2	4.3	14.9
3,359.80	Br Aerospace	785	+ 3	1.8	29.3
3,104.90	Br Steel†	157	+ 4¼	6.8	4.5
4.46	Brooke Tool	11¼	..	1.1	27.2
42.80	Brunel†	35	+ 1½	1.8	13.7
12.30	Bullough	101	..	7.5	9.8
31.90	Burndene	93	..	4.1	13.5
193.10	Carclo Eng	315	- 1	4.1	16.8
75.00	Castings	176	- 1	2.6	14.1
11.50	Chamberlin Hill	158	..	5.7	9.4
90.40	Chemring	380	- 10	3.7	..
15.60	Clyde Blowers†	198	- 1	3.8	44.2
426.90	Cobham	464	+ 6	2.3	28.2
5.16	Cohen (A)	645	..	1.2	5.9
91.90	Concentric†	169	+ 9	4.9	..
43.80	Cook (Wm)†	221	- 1	4.7	9.1
129.80	David Brown	197	..	4.5	12.9
204.10	Dobson Park	130	..	5.0	28.8
185.20	EIS†	359	- 4	4.5	13.0
40.00	Elliot (B)†	107	- 1	3.2	11.4
52.00	Ecozomi†	90	- 3	2.3	17.0
901.80	FKI†	160	- 4	3.8	15.1
116.40	Fenner†	126	- 2	3.6	12.3
0.37	Fergum	1½	..	..	..
25.30	Firth Hldgs	38	- 1½	..	21.3
44.30	GEI Intl	120	+ 2½	3.6	11.9
6.90	Garron Eng	177	..	4.1	9.6
772.70	Glynwed	318	+ 14	4.9	12.8
47.90	Gyrostone	13	..	5.0	9.0
88.50	Haden MacLtn	80½	- 3	3.4	21.1
13.10	Hadleigh	182	- 1	2.8	11.9
74.50	Hall Eng	177	- 2	4.3	..
456.90	Halma	171	- 1	1.7	22.8
28.00	Hampson Ind	45	- 2	6.2	10.3
4.20	Hay (Norman)	28	..	..	..
38.50	Hill & Smith	106	- 4	6.9	13.3
24.20	Hopkinsons	31	+ 1	5.2	..
14.70	How Gp	35	+ 1	2.7	..
198.20	Howden	68	+ 1	5.1	8.9
194.00	Hunting	198	..	6.3	18.6
1,099.80	IMI	330	+ 12	4.2	38.9
63.80	Johnson & FB†	59½	- ¼	2.1	..
1,125.90	Johnson Matthy	521	- 8	3.0	15.1
11.80	Jones Shipman	46	- 2	..	..
17.70	Kelsey Ind	570	..	5.4	..
27.40	Lincat	288	..	3.6	14.2
6.00	Locker (T) A†	20	+ 1	2.8	15.4
68.30	ML Hdgs†	40	+ 3	4.1	13.1
9.86	MS Intl	36	..	2.1	..
39.20	Mang Bronze	236	+ 5	2.6	11.7
389.50	McKechnie†	397	- 7	5.2	11.9
196.40	Meggitt	90½	+ 3½	5.4	24.3
115.80	Metalrax	114	..	4.1	18.3
15.20	Metsec	98	..	4.0	20.7
264.30	Molins	775	..	2.8	13.5
848.30	Morgan Crucbl	384	- 5	4.4	16.8
32.40	Morris Ashby†	270	- 3	3.2	14.1
13.00	Neepsend†	53	..	3.8	11.2
12.90	Neotronics	50	+ 7	4.2	10.2
10.50	OMI Intl	14½	+ ½	6.5	..
336.90	Powerscreen†	379	+ 15½	2.8	14.0
12.00	Prospect Inds	4	- ¼	20.6	..
0.88	Radiant Metal	65	..	..	..
35.80	Ransomes	63	- 1	..	..
21.90	Record	64	- 1	7.0	12.8
230.00	Renishaw	380	- 8	2.1	23.7
157.20	Renold†	234	- 18	2.8	13.2
3.02	Richard (Leics)	36	- 1	7.8	12.5
28.20	Richardson West	79	..	5.6	12.8
2,715.60	Rolls-Royce†	186	+ 11½	3.4	26.7
146.30	Rotork	187	- 2	3.7	15.9
145.20	Rubicon	172	- 1	3.9	18.5
279.40	Senior Eng	92½	- 1½	4.7	22.7
33.70	Servomex	334	..	2.7	22.6
24.30	Satd-Rve	155	+ 3	1.2	26.8
3,397.70	Siebe	782	+ 8	2.0	21.8
118.50	Simon Eng	75	- 6	..	..
84.40	Six Hundred†	156	- 6	1.8	11.2
789.80	SKF 'B'	1237½	- 3½	3.3	11.5
1,526.80	Smiths Inds†	638	- 30	2.8	20.3
464.10	Spirax-Sarco	592	- 5	2.5	18.6
81.50	Sterling Ind	291	- 1	3.4	14.0
2,115.00	TI	450	+ 25	3.4	21.1
10.30	Tinsley (E)	99	..	7.3	13.4
91.40	Transtec†	88	..	2.0	..
90.50	Triplex Lloyd†	139	- 1	6.3	10.3
35.80	Utd Inds▼	16	+ ½	2.9	12.8
16.20	Vorson	11	..	..	..
845.60	Vickers	255	- 7	2.6	20.5
14.10	Villiers Grp	12	..	..	..
332.80	Vinst	689	- 3	1.7	17.6
259.80	Vosper Thornyt	812	+ 25	3.3	14.8
225.80	Wagon Ind	436	- 2	5.6	12.4
423.00	Weir	213	- 3	4.2	17.9
68.70	Wellman	47¼	- 2½	4.4	10.2
96.60	Whatman	420	- 2	3.5	13.5
13.80	Widney	9¾	- ¼	3.8	..

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
6.01	AAF Inds	26	..	..	..
22.10	Airflow Stream†	360	..	3.8	6.1
15.50	Armour†	42	..	5.9	12.0
128.50	Avon Rubber†	485	- 3¾	4.6	..
1,158.60	BBA	280	+ 7	2.3	..
166.60	BSG†	56½	- ½	7.0	12.0
8.94	Benson Group	6¼	+ ¼	2.4	..
50.40	Bostrom	300	..	2.6	16.8
15.80	Boustead	24	+ 6	5.3	..
29.70	Coverdale	11½	..	3.0	7.8
24.40	ERF	249	..	2.3	14.5
68.70	First Tech	435	- 7	2.1	18.3
2,690.80	GKN	771	+ 1	3.6	15.8
24,158.50	General Mtr	3400	+ 137½	2.3	..
13,092.70	Honda Motor	1343	+ 73½	0.7	..
548.80	Laird	397	+ 18	3.7	14.7
8.50	Leodes	435	+ 10	0.3	..
1,523.70	Lucas†	174	- 2	5.0	53.1
302.30	Mayflower	92½	- 2	2.3	24.1
41.90	Sylone	177	- 17	3.5	16.3
860.40	T & N	162	- 1	4.6	..
176.80	Trinity Hldgs	344	+ 6	2.7	18.6

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
3,348.00	ABF Foods†	372	+ 10½	3.0	13.2
105.60	Acatos & Hutch	246	+ 9	4.7	..
346.80	Albert Fisher†	49	- ½	9.6	12.0
23.90	Banks (S C)	275	- 2	4.5	14.0
65.80	Barr (AG)	334	- 6	2.9	15.0
13.70	Bensons Crsp	27	- 1	..	..
805.40	Booker†	357	+ 13	7.9	18.2
19.80	Borthwick†	34	+ ½	4.8	24.6
40.10	CPL Aromas†	368	- 1	1.4	23.0
5,272.10	Cadbury-Schw†	532	- 14½	3.7	19.7
22.30	Carrs Milling	318	..	3.4	..
66.40	Caughan	99	- 1	2.8	13.1
27.70	Cranswick	195	..	5.7	12.3
1,178.70	Dalgety	408	+ 5	8.7	12.3
4.48	Daniels S	45	..	0.3	..
341.60	Devro	253	- 4	3.6	16.0
23.60	Everest	93	- 3	5.4	8.4
4.06	Farmyard	15½	- 1½	..	..
63.80	Finlay (James)†	64	- 1	6.2	25.5
20.90	Global	16½	+ ½	4.0	11.4
478.80	Greencore	561	- 3	2.8	..
259.60	Hazlewood Fds†	97	+ 3	8.8	8.0
1,159.20	Hillsdown†	165	+ 6	6.9	11.1
119.10	Hobson†	30½	..	3.3	35.0
24.70	JLI Group	62	+ 4	10.3	10.3
50.40	Linton Park	311	..	6.0	7.6
114.00	Matthews (B)	92	- 6	4.4	8.8
91.80	Nichols (JN)	233	..	3.3	15.0
1,007.80	Nthn Foods	174	+ 6	6.5	..
6.60	Northumbn Fs	10½	- ¾	..	6.0
1.76	Pascoe's	110	..	..	..
7.50	Peoplaus (UK)	9½	..	..	..
86.00	Perkins Food	69	+ 1	8.1	9.8
39.40	SeaPerfect	80	- 8	..	..
6.41	Sentry Farm	149	..	2.9	11.9
11.40	Sims Food†	33	..	11.4	11.0
1,834.10	Tate & Lyle†	462	+ 9½	4.3	9.7
32.90	Tresit	343	+ 1	1.9	15.5
973.00	Unigate†	413	+ 4	5.6	14.2
10,660.30	Unilever	1308	- 13	2.6	15.8
14,499.50	Unilever (NV)	9025	- 18½	2.8	13.4
1,358.80	Utd Biscuits†	257	+ 5	8.5	16.3
12.30	WT Foods	29	..	11.0	16.5
35.60	Yorkshire Food	80	..	5.6	9.1

HEALTHCARE

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
500.20	Amersham†	858	- 11	2.5	18.4
34.40	Aragen	74	+ 14	..	..
37.90	Assoc Nursg	170	+ 2	2.3	13.1
79.70	Bespak	315	- 3	4.0	21.8
214.90	Biocompat Intl	475	- 25	..	..
31.00	Care UK	77	- 1	1.2	..
100.20	Celsis	130	- 7	..	..
84.20	Community H	250	- 2	4.4	12.8
53.10	CrestaCare	28	- 1	3.7	9.7
6.71	Environmed	26	+ 1	6.7	3.3
8.24	Fircroft Group†	77	+ 16	3.8	..
54.30	Goldsborough†	124	..	3.9	..
20.20	Greenacre	11½	+ ¼	4.1	14.0
218.10	Huntgtn Tec	768	..	1.1	28.4
17.30	Intercare Gp	61	+ 4	7.5	..
38.00	Isotron	304	- 1	2.2	17.5
151.70	Life Sciences	87	- 1	6.3	9.0
42.80	Lon Intl	126½	+ 2½	1.5	..
59.30	Nestor-BNA	79	..	5.0	17.7
0.95	Premier Health	13	..	..	0.9
39.20	Quality Care	280	+ 5	2.1	13.0
132.50	Scholl	194	- 1	4.3	..
195.30	Seton Health	393	- 2	2.4	19.1
32.40	Shield Diag	173	+ 4	..	..
2,080.90	Smith & Neph	189	- 2½	3.6	21.8
3.40	Specialeyes	17	- 2	..	0.6
237.70	Takare	184	- 7	1.6	12.7
426.10	UniChem†	246	- 9	3.8	13.9
203.90	West Hlthcare	328	..	2.1	14.6

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

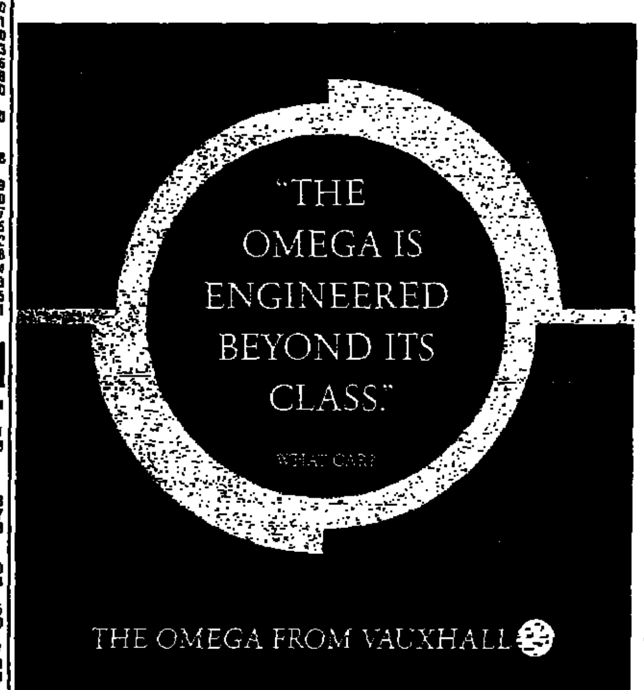
Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
45.20	Airsprung	189	..	3.6	10.3
6.47	BLP Group	98	- 1	4.0	8.0
3.70	Bilston Bttrsea	42	..	..	22.3
30.30	Crnwl Pks 'A'	97	+ 2	0.8	..
5.88	Creighton Nt	125	+ 2½	7.7	9.0
59.10	Denby Group	177	+ 5	2.5	..
6.76	Casket	138	..	3.8	10.7
158.00	MP Intl	460	+ 2	2.6	13.0
4.41	Lionheart	2¼	..	..	..
343.00	McBride	196	- 6	4.3	19.8
57.90	Maybourne	256	- 7	3.2	14.4
23.50	Osborne & Little	385	- 4½	3.4	9.9
107.80	Paterson Zch	442	- 4	4.2	13.7
85.10	Paterson Zch 'A'	370	- 8	5.1	11.5
3,001.90	Reckitt Colmt	708	+ 22	3.4	16.4
57.60	Relyon	269	..	3.3	17.2
125.80	Royal Doulton	247	- 3	3.9	12.3
82.90	Silentnight†	178	- 1	5.6	12.0
13.60	Stodgard	20½	..	7.5	30.8
10.90	Tomkinson†	168	..	8.6	..
5.10	Victoria Carpet	75	- 10	3.3	..
94.40	Walker Greenbk	81	+ 2	5.6	15.5
439.40	Wilmot Bkdgwd†	62	+ 1	1.6	20.8
3.50	Wood (Arthur)	175	..	3.0	13.8

INSURANCE

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
564.50	Alex & Alext	1275	- 12½	5.1	..
4,595.70	Am Gen	2243¾	+ 75	3.6	..
105.40	Angerstein	89	..	4.3	28.3
20.10	Archer	55	- 1	2.3	..
44.70	Bradstock	70	- 2	10.8	..
1,449.20	Britannic	747	+ 11	2.4	..
61.90	CLM Insce	95	+ 1	2.7	..
4,215.60	Com Union	633	+ 7	5.4	10.1
105.10	Dom & Gen	1545	+ 20	2.2	15.6
73.20	FBD IC	165	- 2½	4.0	7.8
50.90	Fenchurch Grp	141	..	7.9	..
31.80	Finsbury Undr	106	..	2.8	53.0
3,166.20	Gen Accident	661	+ 2	5.7	8.8
2,426.20	GRE†	272	+ 2½	3.9	5.3
99.60	HCG Lloyds	90½	..	4.4	38.0
102.30	Heath C E†	150	..	11.7	9.4
145.90	Hibernian E	278¼	- 5½	3.8	29.2
31.50	Hiscox Select	105	..	2.6	41.4
162.40	Independent	360	+ 25	3.5	7.9
759.60	Irish Life	250	- 3	5.3	22.0
133.50	JIB Group	104	..	9.0	12.2
35.70	Kiln Capital	99	..	5.1	..
3,290.20	Legal & Gen	668	- 5	4.2	19.7
4,883.90	Liberty Life	2003¾	+ 6½	6.8	6.1
129.20	Lloyd Thomp	184	- 7	8.9	9.3
3,190.30	Lloyds Abbey	459	- 12	5.4	14.1
490.80	Londn & Man	402	- 10	5.5	16.4
281.40	London Ins Mkt	100½	..	3.6	39.6
81.40	Lowndes Lmt	137	- 8	7.8	7.5
4,271.00	Marsh McLn	5703¾	- 6½	3.6	..
39.90	Masthead	99	..	3.2	26.4
64.60	Nelson Hurst	143	+ 1	6.1	9.2
49.80	New London Cap	83	..	5.6	29.9
21.30	Octavian	54	+ 2	7.1	..
30.40	Orrel	105	..	6.2	11.9
16.00	Premium Trust	81	..	4.6	18.5
16.10	Premium Under	122	..	..	..
8,011.30	Prudential	419	- 10	4.4	17.5
6.24	PWS	20	..	2.2	..
599.40	Refuge	441	- 14	3.6	30.6
2,524.00	Royal	383	+ 2	4.2	7.4
677.50	Sedgwick	124	..	6.7	10.1
18.20	Steel Burnt	35	- 1	26.8	3.5
3,015.50	Sun Alliance	370	- 12½	5.5	10.5
10.10	Syndicate Cap	93	+ 1	3.7	26.8
133.40	Trade Indemnity	73	..	1.9	32.5
578.30	TRJ Friendly	701	- 9	3.8	15.1
605.60	Willis Corroon	144	- 1	5.7	..
5.07	Windsor	15	..	4.3	..

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
2,465.40	3i†	420	+ ½	2.2	..
37.20	Abtrust Emerg	74½	+ 4½	0.7	..
33.90	Abtrust High Inc	77	- 2	10.1	..
91.60	Abtrust N Dawn	212½	+ 5	0.7	..
1,030.20	Alliance	2044	..	3.1	..
239.10	American Trust	287	- 7	2.4	..
555.00	Anglo & O'seas	486	+ 3	1.7	..
39.00	Baillie Gifford SN	132	+ 1	..	..
325.70	Bankers	210	- 2½	2.5	..
47.50	Baring Em Eu	36¼	+ ¼	..	..
186.20	Baring Tribne	383	- 1	2.3	..
236.80	Br Assets†	92	- 2	6.2	..
182.00	Br Empire Sec	84½	+ ½	1.3	..
4.52	Br Empire Wts	34	- ½	..	..
702.00	Br Invt	225	- 2	1.9	..
41.40	Brazilian	69½	- 7½	..	..
167.00	Brunner	261	+ 3	2.7	..
67.30	BZW Convt	131½	+ 1	7.4	..
112.40	Candover	302	..	3.1	..
79.80	Central Euro Grth	39½	..	1.4	..
35.10	Chile & Eastern	172	- 4	2.6	..
39.20	Conti Assist	179	- 1½	2.1	..
5.47	Dares Inv Inc	75	..	13.3	..
51.80	Darby Cap	338	- 5	..	..
18.70	Derby Inc	156	..	14.4	..
223.00	Dunedin Inc G	697	- 14	4.8	..
17.50	Dunedin Japan	86	- 1	..	..
53.00	Dunedin Smlr	315½	- ½	3.6	..
2.12	Dunedin Wts	26½	+ 1½	..	..
282.00	Dunedin Wrldwd	782	+ 2	1.5	..
270.90	Edin Dragon	102½	+ ½	..	..
20.60	Edinburgh Inca	25	+ ½	..	..
951.90	Edinburgh	324	+ 4	3.7	..
37.20	EFM Japan	164½	+ 3½	..	..
531.80	Electra Inv	365	+ 1½	2.6	..
198.00	Electric Gen	212	..	3.0	..
1.90	English Scot	144	..	..	..
82.80	European Asset	332	- 3	1.9	..
100.60	Fidelity Euro Val	193	- 1	0.2	..
79.20	Fidelity Jap Val	73¼	+ ½	0.2	..
38.50	Fidelity Spec Val	105	- 1	0.8	..
27.40	Finsbury 'A'	171½	- 1½	3.5	..
6.78	First Spanish	77	..	0.4	..
198.70	Fleming Amer	288	- 7	0.7	..
32.50	Fleming Chinese	53¾	- ½	1.2	..
3.24	Fleming Ch Wts	27	..	..	..
138.20	Fleming Claver	250	- 2	2.9	..
224.00	Fleming Cont	343	- 2	1.2	..
138.80	Fleming Em Mkts	143½	- 1½	..	..
89.60	Fleming Eng	248	- 2	2.6	..
528.90	Fleming F East	348¼	+ 10½	0.6	..
50.00	Fleming Fledg	387	- 1	0.9	..
32.00	Fleming HI Inct	98¼	+ ½	5.8	..
47.90	Fleming Indian	56½	+ 2	2.7	..
4.96	Fleming In Wts	29¼	+	..	..
28.90	Fleming Intl	38	- ½	11.9	..
498.80	Fleming Japan	282	+ 1	..	..
413.30	Fleming Merc	286	- 3	3.1	..
38.60	Fleming Nat Res	94	- 1	..	..
443.60	Fleming Oseas	334	..	1.7	..
1,692.10	Foreign & Col	161	- 1½	1.5	..
46.20	For & Col Inc Gwth†	107	+ 2	3.8	..
194.50	Frgn Emg Mkts	103½	+ 1	..	..
80.40	Frgn Enterprise	85½	- ½	1.2	..
159.50	Frgn Eurotst†	258	..	0.6	..
49.10	Frgn German	125	- 1	0.5	..
423.80	Frgn Pacific	184	+ 4	0.9	..
76.80	Frgn PEP†	135	- 1	3.6	..
180.10	Frgn Smaller	172	- ½	1.6	..
65.30	Frgn US Smlr	130	- 1	..	..
2.89	Fulcrum Cap	18	..	..	..
3.82	Fulcrum Inc†	34	..	..	..
14.10	Fulcrum Zero	163½	..	..	..
109.50	Gartmore Bril	219	..	4.2	..
9.54	Gartmore Eai	212	..	2.4	..
28.70	Gartmore Eurot	168	+ 1	0.9	..
30.30	Gartmore Shrd	89	- 1	13.5	..
35.10	Gmore Smlr Cos†	244	..	2.9	..
35.00	Geared Inc Inv	87	..	11.9	..
31.10	Genl Cons Cap	172	- 3	..	..
38.00	Genl Inct	105	..	11.1	..
38.70	German Inv	99	- 2	0.3	..
80.30	Gov Am Sm Cos	214	+ 3	0.2	..
37.20	Gov Eng Mkts	104	+ 2½	0.4	..
47.30	Govett Am Smlr	190	- 3	..	..
18.30	Gov Glob Smlr	84	..	..	..
35.40	Govett High Inct	74	+ ½	9.5	..
675.70	Govett Oriental	376	+ 5½	0.4	..
282.80	Govett Strategic†	388	- 3	2.9	..
52.90	Greenfriar	437	..	2.0	..
0.25	Gresham House	6	..	..	..
93.00	Gom F Ex Inc	93	- 1	..	..
155.40	GT Japan	249	+ 3	0.6	..
108.20	H Govett Smlr	138	- 2	2.0	..
30.80	Hend High	118	- 1½	6.2	..
60.60	Hend Strata	353	+ 4	0.5	..
82.50	Herald	127	- 1½	0.5	..
17.70	High Income Tt	78	- 2½	10.3	..
93.10	HTR Jap Smaller	93	- 2	..	..
0.45	IBS Eq	15	..	..	..
33.10	ISS UK Smllr	114	- 2	3.1	..
338.90	Inv Cap	137	- 2	4.8	..
38.10	Ins Biotech	101	- 1	1.2	..
	Int Wts	34	- 2	..	..
107.20	INVESCO Asia	95½	+ ½	..	..
7.71	INVESCO Burt	61	- 1	17.2	..
67.60	INVESCO Eng Intt	138	..	0.7	..
45.00	INVESCO Korea	135	- ½	..	..
64.50	INVESCO Tokyo	57½	+ 2	..	..
25.80	J Fry 2nd Ut	89	- 1	9.4	..
8.63	J Fry Euro U	81	- 1	6.8	..
149.50	JF Fledg Jap	237½	+ 2	..	..
32.00	Jupiter Ind Grn	127	..	3.3	..



Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
201.30	Klnwt Chrt	248½	+ 4½	2.7	..
31.80	Klnwt E Mkt	112½	- ¼	..	..
39.90	Klnwt End	133	+ 2½	..	..
405.10	Klnwt Euro Prvt	81	- 1	3.6	..
22.20	Klnwt Euro Wts	22¼	- ½	..	..
23.40	Klnwt H Inct	78	- 1	13.8	..
217.30	Klnwt O'seas	271	..	1.6	..
18.00	Klnwt Smlr	136	- 1	2.2	..
135.60	Korea—Euro	552½	- 16½	0.1	..
88.60	Latin American	98½	+ 2	..	..
214.10	Law Debenture	943	- 6	2.8	..
24.50	Lloyds Sm Cap	100	- 2	..	..
6.50	Lloyds Sm Div	26½	..	17.5	..
31.10	Lloyds Sm Pkg	127	- 1	3.6	..
56.70	Lon St Lawrence	173	- 2	4.6	..
80.60	Lowland†	340	+ 2	3.7	..
194.00	Lydenburg	1225	..	1.9	..
62.80	M&G 2nd Dual Cp	628	- 15	..	..
11.40	M&G 2nd Dual In	114	..	..	..
128.60	M&G Dual Cap	3025	- 20	..	..
13.10	M&G Dual Inc	228	..	..	..
66.00	M&G Inc Growtht	65½	..	9.7	..
78.90	M&G Inc Inv Tst Cp	32	+ ¼	..	..
83.80	M&G Inc Inv Tst Inct	34	..	18.8	..
190.20	M&G Inc Packaget	130½	+ 1½	4.9	..
163.90	M&G Inc Zero Div	66½	+ ½	..	..
31.00	M&G Rec Cap	23	- ½	..	..
467.60	M&G Rec Geared	42	- 2	10.5	..
34.30	M&G Rec Inc	25½	..	19.9	..
154.90	M&G Rec Pacge	138	- 4	3.6	..
123.20	M&G Rec Zero Div	91½	- ½	..	..
26.10	M Curie Euro	113	- 1	0.4	..
21.50	M Curie Japan	99	+ 1	..	..
57.80	M Curie Pac	141	+ 4	0.1	..
117.00	Majedie†	222	+ 4	3.2	..
8.61	Mandon	42	- 1	..	..
290.00	Merchants	283½	- 1	5.1	..
523.20	Mercury Euro Pvt	91	+ 1½	1.9	..
3.60	Mercury Eur Wt	25½	- ½	..	..
385.50	Mercury World	90½	- ½	0.9	..
13.20	Mercury Wld Wts	15½	- ½	..	..
441.50	Monks Inv Tst	589	- 3	2.0	..
54.90	Morg Gren Inct	159	+ 2	3.9	..
2.86	Morg Wts	53	+ 1	..	..
37.60	Morg Latn Amer	58½	+ ½	..	..
2.76	Morg Wts	21½	..	..	..
30.20	Murray Ent▼	313	- 2½	2.6	..
0.91	Murray Ent Wts	19	- ½	..	..
53.30	Murray Emrg Eco	82	+ 1½	1.4	..
2.79	Murray Em Ec Wt	21½	+ 1	..	..
16.80	Murray Euro	55½	- ¼	0.8	..
0.39	Murray Eu Wts	6½	- 1	..	..
324.50	Murray Income†	378½	+ 1½	4.0	..
455.60	Murray Intl	379	- ½	4.2	..
11.70	Murray S/C DP	182½	- ½	..	..
7.85	Murray S/C Cap	142	- 3	..	..
5.76	Murray S/C Inc	72	- 1	19.8	..
1.57	Murray S/C Uts	3025	..	0.5	..
244.60	Murray Smallt	436	..	1.3	..
88.90	Murray Vent	360	- 3	4.2	..
5.43	Newmarket	15	..	..	..
23.10	Nwthrop Inc	59	..	10.2	..
16.10	Nedberg Cap	65	- 4	..	..
143.40	O'seas Inv Tst	376½	+ 1½	1.2	..
3.21	O'seas Wts	179	+ 5	..	..
121.70	Pacific Assets	132	+ 4½	0.3	..
32.20	Perpetual Jap	88	+ 1	..	..
14.90	Perpl UK Sm Co	287	- 1	1.0	..
22.40	Personal Assets	£112	..	2.2	..
38.80	Pilot Inv	104	- 1	2.3	..
78.80	Prolific Inc	112½	..	4.0	..
378.10	RIT Cap Ptnr	209	+ 1	0.9	..
13.10	River Merc Am Cap	35	- ½	..	..
7.88	River Merc Am Inc	105	+ 1	8.3	..
0.75	River Merc Am Wts	10	+ ½	..	..
51.90	River Merc Cap	129	..	..	..
33.10	River Merc Ex Inc	89	..	11.0	..
0.42	River Merc Ex Incwt	7	..	..	..
11.68	River Merc Grd Inct	83	..	11.4	..
9.10	River Merc Grd Prf	28	- 1	..	..
85.30	River Merc Tst Inct	188	..	10.8	..
35.10	River Merc Sm Co	136	..	4.0	..
1.66	River Merc Sm Wt	34	..	..	..
	Robeco	450	- 15	3.2	..
	Rolinco	475	- 15	1.6	..
87.80	Schrod Inc Gwth†	111	- 2	..	..
117.20	Schrod Jap Gwth	93¾	+ 2	..	..
53.60	Schrod Korea	812½	- 32½	..	..
1.56	Schrod Medlin	284	..	0.3	..
6.06	Schrod Split Cap	2½	- 1½	..	..
57.20	Schrod Split Inct	101	- 1	9.7	..
48.70	Schrod Split Zero	129	- ½	..	..
140.40	Schrod UK Gwth†	118	- ½	2.5	..
729.80	Scot	257½	+ 1	2.8	..
361.10	Scot Americant	161½	..	3.9	..
61.30	Scot Asian	292	+ 2	..	..
5.31	Scot Wts	758	..	..	..
587.70	Scot Eastern	93¾	..	2.2	..
907.20	Scot Mige	251½	+ ½	2.2	..
147.70	Scot Natl Tst†	92½	- 1½	10.4	..
55.60	Scot Value†	110½	- ½	2.3	..
355.60	Second Allnce	1852	+ 3	3.1	..
288.30	Secs Ts of Scot	90	- 1	4.7	..
41.60	Selective Asset†	144	..	1.4	..
26.40	SHIRESCOT†	136	..	5.2	..
119.70	St Andrew Inv	348	- 1	3.0	..
217.80	Temple Bar	379½	- 6½	4.7	..
129.10	Thsdn Asian E	108	+ 1	0.6	..
1.96	Throg Dual Cp	58	- 3	..	..
232.40	Throgmorton	76½	- 1½	3.8	..
500.00	Tplton Emg Mkt	124½	+ 2½	0.8	..
350.80	TR City Of Lon	169½	- ½	3.9	..
115.00	TR Euro Growth	197	- 2	1.1	..
78.20	TR Far East†	173½	+ 2½	4.4	..
32.60	TR High Inc	127	- 1½	6.3	..
153.10	TR Pacific	113	+ 1½	0.2	..
130.60	TR Property†	27½	..	4.3	..
362.60	TR Smlr Cos	203½	+ 1½	2.4	..
86.40	TR Tech Inv	182½	- 10½	1.9	..
18.60	Turkey Tnst	188	+ 5	1.5	..
88.50	USDC Invest	269	+ 13	2.1	..
87.00	Undervalued Ast	113	- 2	1.9	..
55.80	Value Inc Tst†	124½	- 1½	4.3	..
7.98	Voyageur Er Sm	73	..	0.8	..
26.60	Warrants & Val	33½	- ½	..	..
11.80	Wigmore†	58	- 2	1.7	..
981.40	Witan	261½	- 3	3.0	..
19.00	Yeoman Inct	77	..	22.2	..

LEISURE & HOTELS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
6.00	Abrdn Sit H	50	..	..	..
430.40	Airtours	373	+ 21	4.8	10.6
48.90	Ald Leis	43	+ 1	..	16.0
170.10	Alpha Airpts	101½	- 5½	5.8	10.1
58.60	Arcadian	53	- 5	1.9	..
8.38	BS Group	133	+ 7	2.8	18.2
26.80	Baldwin	151	- 4	3.6	12.1
32.30	Barr & Wall	217	- 2	8.3	11.5
157.60	Bluebird Toys	323	- 2	3.2	10.5
93.10	Boosey Hwks	475	- 3	1.6	28.0
16.10	Brit for the Bdrt	67	..	3.1	17.5
6.44	Brent Walker	1¼	..	..	..
34.80	Burndene	33	- 6	7.6	..
8.02	Castlet Prc	8½	..	5.9	..
96.90	Chrysalis	363	+ 13	1.0	..
181.70	City Centre Rest	94	- 1	2.7	18.2
1,479.10	Compass Gp	470	+ 4	2.0	..
70.00	Eurocamp	207	- 2	6.4	9.7
1,185.80	Euro Disney	156	- 10	..	..
32.50	Euro Leisure	170	..	..	5.1
159.40	First Choice	67	+ 3	7.1	..
590.60	First Leisure	361	- 1	2.5	21.4
3,087.20	Forte	326	- 5½	2.9	37.1
29.90	Friendly Hotels	150	..	4.8	17.6
3,714.80	Granada	635	+ 3	2.3	15.3
40.60	Grange Chec Ger	217	+ 15	1.4	26.8
15.70	Hi-Tec Sports	31	- 1	5.2	..
13.20	Hornby	159	+ 11	3.9	13.7
98.80	Jurys Hotel	232¼	+ 3½	3.3	14.8
54.70	Kunick	33½	- 1	3.2	..
295.90	London Clubs†	416	..	4.2	14.9
1,772.30	Ladbroke	152	+ 2	4.9	46.2
1.65	Magnolia	29	..	0.4	..
118.60	Man Utd	195	+ 3	2.9	8.2
551.50	Mandarin Ornl	80	..	4.5	17.1
29.70	My Kinda Town	118	- 7	..	11.7
43.40	Northern▼	90	- 2	5.6	10.9
81.70	Pelican Gp	111	..	1.9	23.0
121.10	PizzaExpress	217	..	1.3	55.8
11.50	Pusn Leisure	135	+ 4	4.4	10.2
51.20	Queens Moat	13¼	- 1¼	..	..
21.60	Ransdens (H)	245	- 3	2.3	28.6
3,737.40	Rank Org	448	+ 8	3.8	15.2
22.30	Ryan Hotels K	34	..	4.7	11.9
249.70	Savoy Hotel 'A'	1048	- 2	0.8	55.3
389.90	Stakis	81	+ ½	2.7	..
193.50	Stanley Leisure	359	- 2	2.1	16.6
1,297.30	Tarsong	346	..	1.0	23.1
6,548.90	Thorn EMI	1523	- 59	3.0	23.9
36.80	Tottenham Hot	730	..	1.6	7.5
18.80	Toy Options	94	- 6	3.5	..
101.10	VCI	260	+ 10	2.1	17.8
91.50	Vardon	104	- 1	1.8	15.6
162.20	Wembley	302	- 3	..	..
8.45	Zetters Gp	120	..	9.8	10.0

MEDIA

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
190.50	Abbott Mead	469	- 5	2.1	27.8
47.40	Adscene	265	- 5	3.8	14.7
315.30	Aegis Gp	38½	..	..	15.3
5.50	Allied Radio	4	+ ¼	..	..
0.91	BBB Design	11	..	..	..
52.40	Barbour Index	310	..	3.6	28.2
8.05	Bladsk	8½	+ ½	..	..
5.05	Black (A&C)	325	- 5	5.4	12.6
236.50	Blenheim Grp	254	+ 6	5.1	15.7
25.40	Border TV	249	+ 4	2.2	20.4
57.50	Bristol†	325	+ 6	4.7	18.3
6,962.90	BSkyB	406	- 9	0.8	46.0
54.90	CIA Gp	133	- 1	1.8	26.2
37.80	Caledonian Med	25	..	..	..
388.40	Capital Radio†	632	+ 28	2.4	..
2,187.60	Carlton Comm	947	- 12	1.9	..
6.64	City of Lon	84	- 1	7.4	10.7
39.00	Cordiant A	90	- 4½	..	..
68.00	Daily Mail	1318¼	+ 16¼	1.7	..
1,164.50	Daily Mail 'A'	1168¾	+ 40¾	1.9	..
357.80	Dorling Kind	530	- 6	0.8	43.2
1,086.10	EMAP†	527	- 17	2.6	20.5
5,561.80	Elsevier	849¼	+ 1¾	2.6	21.2
231.90	Euromoney Pb	1083	+ 10	5.3	..
7.83	Filtch	22	..	..	14.6
523.00	Flextech	472	- 13	..	..
63.80	GGT Group	239	..	2.8	18.4
121.90	GWR Gp	178	- 1	1.6	..
21.50	Goodhouse Group	199	- 4	2.8	13.0
7.22	Goodhead	18	..	0.3	..
71.10	Grampian†	218	- 1	2.7	18.7
247.90	HTV Group	293	- 19	1.2	30.2
45.20	Haynes Pub	280	+ 2	4.1	14.3
6.97	Highbury Hse	22	+ 1	..	..
88.70	Hodder H'line	282	- 1	3.0	15.6
18.39	Home Counts	162	+ 2	4.2	18.5
111.30	IBC	286	- 6	3.5	12.2
6.96	Incepta	10½	..	..	5.1
474.58	Independent	395	..	2.8	18.9
4.60	Intereuropa	100	..	8.8	..
192.20	Johnston Press	144	- 4	1.8	17.4
8.50	Lopex	16	..	3.9	15.4
203.60	MAID	222	- 26	..	..
64.30	Metal Bulletn	649	- 1	2.5	27.3
172.40	Midland Ind	125	- 2	3.4	13.1
735.90	Mirror Gp	176	- ½	2.6	11.5
151.30	More O'Ferrall	457	+ 2	3.7	18.8
6,774.90	News Corp	350	- 22	0.4	10.3
2,134.00	News Intl	309	- 11	1.3	12.2
5.65	O'Carey Comms	21	- 1	1.2	..
3,413.60	Pearson	614	..	3.2	18.0
75.50	Phonelink	189	+ 2	..	..
69.60	Portsmth Sundt	580	..	2.6	14.6
46.30	Quarto	252	- 1	3.1	12.7
5,486.10	Reed Intl	971	- 2	2.9	25.1
10,028.50	Reuters	598	+ 3	1.8	25.4
78.50	Scott Radio	311	- 2	2.7	..
289.80	Scot TV	479	- 12	4.1	31.5
43.00	SelecTV	30	+ 2	..	50.9
49.70	Shandwick	36½	..	4.5	8.5
13.20	Storey Kids	44	+ 3	..	23.6
41.60	Southnews†	261	+ 1	2.3	16.1
13.00	Sterling Pub	28	+ 2	..	..
86.80	Taylor Nelson	39½	- 1½	2.2	20.1
569.30	Telegraph	418	- 2	3.9	31.3
26.20	Television Cp	110	+ 5	5.1	..
5,058.90	Thomson Corp	865	+ 15	5.1	18.3
467.80	Trinity Intl	340	- 1	3.8	13.1
169.60	Ulster TV	1044	+ 21	2.7	20.2
1,346.70	United News	549	- 11	5.2	14.4
13.50	VTR†	130	+ 3	4.2	13.4
1,179.50	WPP	160	+ 6	0.9	22.1
47.10	Wilmington	86	- 1	..	31.0
354.00	Yorkshire TV	686	- 12	1.4	73.4

MINING

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
985.60	Ang Am Coal†	3812½	..	3.0	14.5
9,434.80	Ang Am	4043¾	- 16½	2.1	29.7
1,278.70	Ang Am Gold	5,393¾	- 193¾	4.2	15.0
19.40	Anglo Pac Res	25	..	..	..
63.70	Arcon Intl	23	- 1	..	..
1,097.10	Ashanti	1306¼	+ 25	1.9	..
248.90	Ashton	89	- 8	6.0	..
79.60	Bakyrchik	256	..	..	..
542.00	Beatrix	576¾	+ 8¼	3.8	26.4
3.15	Bisichi	30	- 1	3.0	..
26.50	Blyvoors	110¼	+ 8¼	..	..
120.30	Bougainville	38	..	..	..
1.36	Bracken	9¼	..	9.1	..
24.10	Buffels	219¼	- 16¼	..	..
5.39	Butte	2¼	..	..	..
8,178.00	CRA	1036	- 19	2.8	23.9
135.40	Central Pacific	135	+ 73	..	..
82.40	Cluff Res	108	+ 2	..	..
25.70	Coal Corp†	25	- 2	..	..
7.16	Cons Murchison	115	- 6	5.4	3.1
7,556.60	De Beers	1987¼	+ 18¾	2.7	22.0
51.70	Deelkraal	52	- 1	..	1.7
1,665.10	Driefontein	816¼	+ 49	3.9	25.6
10.60	Durban	454¾	- 28¼	..	..
74.50	E Rand Gold	162½	..	13.7	7.3
43.10	E Rand Prop	32½	..	..	..
55.30	Eastern Trans	64	..	1.8	61.7
307.30	Elandsrand	316¼	- 16¼	3.1	10.6
967.90	Eng China Cl	316	+ 11	6.5	15.3
637.80	FS Cons	536	- 32½	5.1	19.5
8.00	FS Dev	34	..	..	..
1,971.20	GFSA	2037½	- 50	1.9	27.5
572.90	GM Kalgoorli	60	- 1	2.4	..
3,154.60	Gencor	227½	- 3¼	1.6	20.0
15.70	Gold Fields Prop	154	..	6.9	6.9
16.90	Greenwich R 'A'	14½	- ½	..	..
16.20	Grootvlei	141¼	- 8¼	6.3	17.7
64.40	Gwalia Cons	103¾	- 2¼	0.9	19.9
157.60	Harmony	586	- 22½	1.2	16.9
181.90	Hartebst	162½	- 3¼	9.2	12.1
816.60	Impala Plat	1290¾	- 16¾	2.4	18.9
106.20	Kidson	85	- 5	14.1	7.7
108.20	Kinross	600	..	7.4	7.1
861.10	Kloof	621¼	- 20¼	4.3	23.3
10.90	Leslie	68¼	- 1¼	11.7	5.7
30.80	Loraine	188½	- 1½	..	..
12.00	Mediallano	14	- 2	..	..
1,395.50	MIM	87	- 4	2.8	..
4,224.60	Minorco	1875	- 50	2.2	23.5
45.40	Monarch	84	- 1	..	..
18.50	Montagle	160	..	2.4	12.1
47.80	NSMt	77	- 6	8.9	6.9
1,237.30	Nth Brkn Hill	178	+ 2	3.0	25.6
226.50	Pancontinent	102	+ 1	..	..
48.00	Petaling Tin	238	+ 10	0.9	..
817.40	Placer Pac	131	- 10	2.2	..
938.20	RJB	548	..	2.9	15.2
10,080.60	RTZ	942	- 4½	3.3	13.6
7.69	Rackwood	49	..	2.6	12.5
323.90	Rand Mines	543	..	2.7	37.3
253.20	Randfontein	414¼	- 36¼	6.6	21.5
637.90	Renison	317	- 8	1.5	13.1
1,466.60	Rustnbg	1150	- 18¾	3.3	..
81.80	St Barbara	39	..	3.7	9.6
35.20	St Helena	365¼	- 20¼	15.0	5.5
242.30	Sons Gwalia	340	- 20	3.5	21.7
166.90	Silvern Pacific	60	+ 34	..	..
445.60	Southvaal	1712¼	+ 40¼	4.5	22.2
6.37	Stilfontein	48¼	..	25.5	4.9
47.70	Unisel	178¼	..	6.8	12.3
840.60	Vaal Reefs	4396¼	- 162½	3.7	9.8
16.20	Wankie Col Z	16	- ½	7.7	3.8
12.90	Wales Hall	1¼	..	..	..
108.70	Watts Blake	530	..	3.4	17.5
623.50	Western Deep	2350	- 71½	2.7	11.5
4,773.50	Western Mng	432	- 5½	1.3	43.9
56.40	Winkels	462½	- 12½	8.0	9.6
36.80	Zambia Copper	30	..	..	..
39.10	Zandpan	30	..	7.7	..

OIL & GAS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
52.60	Abbot Group	52	- 4	..	..
201.40	Aran Energy	77	..	..	..
	Aus Oil & Gas	44	- 2½	..	..
12.00	Arma Pet	38	- 3	..	..
152.90	Br Borneo	339	+ 11	2.8	15.8
11,210.20	British Gas	256	+ 28½	7.1	17.1
29,820.90	Br Petroleum†	535	+ 1½	3.3	15.5
16.90	Bula Resources	2¼	..	..	..
1,887.40	Burmah Castrl†	939	+ 11	4.1	16.3
103.40	Cairn Energy	117	+ 3	..	..
407.80	Calex Gp	242	+ 1	8.5	13.4
237.20	Clyde Pet	58	- 1	2.3	12.1
16.10	Coplex Res	9¼	+ ¼	..	..
28.99	Dragon Oil	1½	..	..	..
7.48	Edin Oil & Gs	21½	..	..	12.1
1,962.10	Enterprise	398	+ 11	5.0	22.5
57.90	Flogas	235	..	5.4	10.7
86.40	Fortune	8	..	..	59.0
129.50	Gaal Pet	96½	..	1.9	14.7
13.00	Gt Western Res	11½	- ½	..	..
229.10	Hardy O & G	202	+ 7	0.6	..
7.84	Intl Tool & Sup	5¼	..	..	..
108.10	JKX Oil & Gas	158	- 2	..	..
1,737.00	LASMO	180	+ 3	0.7	..
2.83	Larmo Unts	40	..	25.9	..
363.80	Monument	57½	- ½	..	36.5
6,118.30	Norsk Hydro	2671¼	- 25	1.6	14.6
11.90	Oceanics	27	- 1	..	..
168.30	Oil Search	55	- 1	..	..
	Petroz	27	- ½	..	..
274.30	Premier	27	+ 1½	..	16.4
2.80	Presido†	11	..	..	..
28.20	Ptroconsult Rs	49	..	1.3	..
73.10	Ramco Egy	379	- 1	0.3	52.4
403.70	Ranger	410	+ 10	5.1	..
48,062.40	Royal Dtch Fl	8965¾	+ 161¼	4.0	16.6
10,851.60	Schlumberger	4500	+ 25	2.2	..
3.65	Scott Pickford	29	- 1	3.9	19.9
39.50	Seafield	77	+ 4	..	40.4
28,341.20	Shell	855	+ 11½	4.2	19.0
9,582.40	Total	4234¾	+ 84¾	3.7	14.9
14.10	Villiers Grp	12	..	..	..
2,260.00	Woodside	339	+ 15	1.1	..
52.90	XCL	28	- 1	..	..

OTHER FINANCIAL

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
14.90	BWD	76	- 5	6.9	12.4
2.60	Barry Bch Nbl	40	..	8.1	11.3
146.70	Bisiec Inv	247	- 1	..	..
31.80	Brewin Dolphin	153	- 2	4.9	15.9
599.60	Caledonia†	719	+ 1	3.0	23.3
50.00	Camellia	2000	..	2.3	18.4
32.60	Carlisle	20½	+ 2½	7.5	21.8
287.40	Cattles	211	- 1½	3.6	18.6
5.66	Christie	24	..	..	..
13.00	EFG	15	- 2	4.2	3.0
46.00	EFT Group	32	..	2.5	16.6
125.20	EFM	680	- 8	4.5	15.5
121.40	Exco	98½	- 11½	7.6	5.0
553.10	Gartmore	274½	- 5½	2.5	23.8
164.40	Govett	234	- 3	8.1	3.8
249.60	Henderson Adt	1150	- 13	4.9	23.6
662.80	Invesco	262	- 7	2.4	17.3
11.30	Investment Co	41	..	7.1	12.3
72.60	Ivory Sime	230½	- 1½	4.2	16.9
1,866.00	Jardine Strat	197½	+ 12½	4.8	6.4
19.30	Johnson Fry	128	+ 14	3.9	9.0
220.30	Lon Forfaiting	217	..	5.5	16.5
104.80	Lon Scot Bk	171	+ 1	3.2	19.9
369.80	Man ED & F†	143	- 4½	8.4	7.3
840.00	M & G	1260	- 8	3.2	..
1,005.40	MAI	305½	- 5	3.6	15.2
	MAI 5.5% Cv Pf	113½	- 1	8.5	..
1,575.00	MAM	883	- 23	4.0	19.0
91.30	Nat Home Loant	104	+ 1	1.2	3.6
509.80	Perpetual†	1833	+ 13	2.7	..
1,088.20	Provident	804	- 24	3.9	17.8
77.40	Rathbone Brs	326	+ 4	3.6	18.9
97.90	Rutland Tst	39½	..	4.1	17.2
34.10	S & U	289	- 2	5.6	8.5
203.00	SP Capital†	110½	- 1½	3.4	20.9
4,848.00	Swire Pacific	508½	+ 12½	2.4	18.9
6.47	Tomy Lon	42	- 2	7.4	..
952.90	TransAtlantic	347	- 4	5.1	23.3
4.17	Tele Hldgs	5	..	..	..
2.55	Western Selecn	17	- 6	..	..

PHARMACEUTICALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
867.80	Brit Biotech	1793	+ 185	..	..
38.50	Cantab Pharms	338	..	..	..
419.60	Celltech	578	- 7	..	..
226.40	Chiroscience	333	- 31	..	..
205.60	Cortecs	159	- 11	..	..
31,421.90	Glaxo Wellcome	897	- 2½	4.2	20.5
812.80	Medeva	275	+ 13	1.6	17.7
408.60	Scotia	650	- 39	..	..
9,604.30	SmithKlinet	687	- 2½	2.5	20.4
8,908.80	SmithKline Ut	680	- 7½	2.5	20.2
11,648.10	Zeneca	1230	- 25	2.9	25.1

PRINTING & PAPER

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
23.40	AG Holdings†	130	..	5.5	12.0
119.70	API	554	+ 1	3.3	..
1,321.50	Arjo Wiggins	161	+ 6½	5.8	7.2
8.25	Ashquay Grp	50	..	..	..
35.70	Aspen Comm	238	- 1	3.0	17.7
137.40	Bemrose	396	- 1	4.2	12.7
826.40	Bowater Inct	2259¾	+ 116¾	..	..
148.10	Bownes Intl	422	..	1.4	19.8
255.40	Br Polythene	645	- 4	2.9	14.8
3.70	Br Thornton	23	- 4	5.4	7.8
223.10	Britton Grp	181	+ 1	2.1	17.1
881.90	Bunzl†	198¾	+ 2½	3.3	13.7
50.20	Capital Inds	172	..	3.6	12.3
2,332.90	Carnaud MM†	2893¾	+ 12½	2.0	17.2
23.80	Cropper (James)†	287	- 2	1.6	19.1
1,427.50	De La Rue†	639	+ 4	4.5	13.5
7.83	Delyn Group	91	- 1	2.6	12.1
30.70	Dolphin Pack	131	..	4.5	16.6
31.40	Fairway Group	95	..	4.9	13.9
89.30	Ferguson Intl	221	+ 1	7.5	9.7
35.90	Ferry Pick	192	..	3.9	17.2
92.60	Inveresk	176	..	4.0	15.7
130.30	Jarvis Porter†	279	- 4	2.8	14.9
456.00	Low & Bonar	462	- 6	3.2	13.9
89.20	MY Holdings†	66	..	3.8	12.9
254.40	Macfarlane	209	+ 7	2.0	19.8
37.80	Photobition	327	+ 17	2.4	21.9
85.10	Plysu	178	- 3	5.0	18.9
1,774.90	REXAM	362	- 1	5.0	11.4
456.50	St Ives Gp	456	..	2.3	18.0
7,458.60	Sappi	971¾	+ 53¾	0.5	..
5.20	Scrif	7	- ½	..	..
86.60	Sidlaw†	126	..	10.9	..
848.10	Smith David	270	+ 5	3.2	10.6
1,647.20	Smurfit (Jeff)	153	- 3	3.1	6.5
1.58	Senicat	79	..	4.7	6.8
191.20	Wace	243	- 2	2.9	11.5
216.10	Waddington (J)†	207	- 2	5.4	12.5
300.60	Watmough	442	+ 6	2.4	16.6
55.30	Wyndeham	184	- 4	3.0	16.7

PROPERTY

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
39.70	Allied Lon†	57	- 5	8.8	5.2
180.60	Argent	289	+ 3	..	..
12.30	Aldeston Ests	70	- 2	1.4	..
94.40	Asda Prop	120	..	2.6	30.0
183.70	Bilton	209	- 4	5.9	14.9
72.10	Bolby	148	+ 14	6.5	8.8
7.54	Bolton Gp	20	- ½	..	..
26.80	Boxne Edft	44	+ 1	3.3	50.3
293.70	Bradford†	201	+ 10	4.6	18.7
6.86	Brightstone	98	..	5.0	45.9
1,594.70	Br Land	370	- 1	2.5	31.0
406.50	Brixton	174	- 2½	6.1	16.1
310.80	Burford	104½	+ 2½	2.2	27.9
89.30	CLS Hldgs	94	+ 1	6.7	12.9
67.90	Cap & Regnl	148	..	1.9	16.0
783.00	Cap Shop Ctrs	215	- 4	4.1	25.6
5.36	Cardiff Prop	153	..	2.1	27.7
30.90	Cathay Intl	11	- 1	..	..
273.00	Chelsfield	174	+ 2	1.9	38.1
85.50	Chesterfield†	436	..	3.7	19.0
38.00	Chesterton Intl	67	+ 2½	5.8	9.4
6.16	City Site Ests	39	+ 2	..	9.1
12.70	Clarke Nickolls	7½	..	3.7	10.6
21.40	Compco	102	..	4.1	12.9
39.70	Con Rabial	24	+ 1	3.0	26.8
169.10	Daejan	1180	..	3.4	11.2
13.70	Dares Estates	3	+ ¼	..	..
19.00	Debenhm Tewsn	45	..	9.7	8.3
25.50	Dencora	137	..	3.4	13.5
128.70	Derwent Hldgs	311	..	2.1	16.2
50.50	Development Sec	174	..	1.7	..
19.50	Dwyer	38	..	3.8	..
9.21	Elmco	31	..	..	17.4
24.00	Estates Agency	400	..	4.6	..
2.78	Estates Gen	13	..	..	..
142.80	Evans Of Leeds†	107	..	3.3	16.0
22.80	Ex-Lands†	20½	..	3.0	..
25.00	Fiscal Prop	57	..	4.2	17.5
22.80	Five Oaks	22¼	+	3.9	10.6
1.65	Fletcher King	19	..	6.8	..
6.73	Folkes Group	59	..	3.4	7.8
13.30	Folkes Group nv	55	..	3.6	7.3
231.90	Frogmore	452	+ 3	5.0	..
57.80	Grainger	341	..	4.3	..
560.10	Gt Portland†	170	+ 2½	6.4	13.4
182.30	Greycoat	142	+ 3	0.5	..
141.30	Hambro Cntryw	40	..	0.2	..
377.70	Hammerson	345	+ 3	3.6	24.1
51.70	Helical Bar	317	- 1	2.6	12.2
29.00	Hemingway	23¼	..	2.9	16.2
2.09	Herring Baker	10½	..	..	..
1.61	High-Point	31	- 2	2.0	..
3,194.30	HK Land	118½	+ 7½	6.3	13.2
16.00	Jermyn	180	..	2.0	..
4.85	Kendall	1	..	..	..
3,060.00	Land Secr†	600	..	5.3	17.5
44.00	Lon Indl†	284	..	4.8	15.1
19.80	Lon & Assoc†	27	- 3½	3.1	14.1
2.38	Lon & Metro	5	..	..	..
224.80	Lon Merch Sec	92	..	6.0	20.5
1,579.20	MEPC†	388	+ 4	6.4	..
3.31	McInerney A	5½	..	..	..
29.70	McKay Secs	124	..	5.2	16.1
11.40	Merivale Mrc	67	- 4	7.0	9.7
21.10	Moorfield Est	31	- ½	4.0	16.8
48.20	Mountview	1050	..	3.3	8.8
131.80	Mucklow (A&J)†	135	..	6.0	18.4
5.08	OPB	77	+ 3	..	..
12.90	Olives Prop	25	- 1	1.5	22.4
154.10	PSIT	126½	- 2	5.3	14.9
237.50	Peel	308	..	2.2	..
160.70	Pillar Prop†	142	+ 2½	4.0	38.8
2.33	Power Corp†	2	..	..	..
18.70	Premier Land	4¼	..	..	14.9
20.80	RPS Group	110	- 1	3.6	14.5
33.10	Raglan	20	+ ½	6.2	6.3
25.20	Regalian	21½	- 1	..	24.7
17.90	Rowlinson Sect	143	..	2.0	11.1
16.00	Rugby Est	89	- 3	3.0	7.8
64.60	St Modwen Prp	55	..	4.1	8.0
54.90	Savills Grdn (J)	54	..	6.9	12.6
21.10	Savills	54	- 3	5.8	9.8
9.70	Scot Mer†	71	..	4.4	11.0
59.80	Shaftesbury†	173	+ 1	1.5	16.4
827.90	Slough Estates	212	- ½	4.8	25.8
21.00	Smart (J)	208	- 4	5.4	9.9
44.40	Southend Prop	41	..	8.0	..
22.30	Speedy Shops	101	..	1.6	14.1
151.80	TBA	53	..	0.4	20.0
57.40	Tops Est	124	..	2.4	31.8
121.10	Town Centre	94	..	4.3	16.7
66.40	Trafford Park	97	- 1	4.3	10.4
8.85	Uk Land	64	+ 8	2.0	7.1
12.00	WSP Group	43	- 2	6.1	9.6
97.70	Warner	201	- 2	7.1	17.0
78.30	Warnford	204	..	4.8	16.8
129.00	Wates	65	- 2½	..	..
1.85	Whitney Mck	28	..	..	..
2.95	Wood John D	38	- 1	6.9	9.0

RETAILERS, FOOD

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
3,229.90	ASDA Group	110½	+ 5½	2.6	16.4
3,781.50	Argyll†	332	+ 24	4.6	14.2
338.90	Brake Brost	658	- 6	1.6	19.8
50.50	Budgen	31	- 1½	4.4	29.2
3.70	Cullens	14	- ½	4.5	19.7
921.20	Dairy Farm Intl	53¼	+ 1¼	7.3	7.6
70.80	Farepak	305	..	3.2	14.9
126.20	Fitzwilton	50	..	6.6	21.7
304.50	Fyffes	108	..	1.9	15.4
137.90	Geest	192	+ 35	5.3	76.6
131.40	Greggs	1153	+ 5	2.6	15.9
470.90	Iceland Group	150	- 3	4.4	9.0
772.80	Kwik Save†	497	- 9	5.0	9.1
14.00	Merchant Retail	16½	..	..	11.5
988.10	Morrison (W)	134	- 1	1.2	13.3
196.00	Nurdin Peack	153	- 4	5.7	16.3
137.20	Park Foods	65	..	4.2	14.7
2.60	Regina Hth	11½	- 1½	..	..
6,931.90	Sainsbury J†	379	+ 9½	3.9	12.6
6,321.00	Tesco	294	+ ½	3.8	14.0
90.00	Thorntons	140	..	4.7	18.0
229.00	Watson & Philip	535	+ 12	3.6	18.8

RETAILERS, GENERAL

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
47.10	Alexon	82	- ½	..	..
177.50	Allders	165	+ 2	5.5	..
1,802.50	Argos	591	- 22½	2.5	24.9
305.40	Ashley (Laura)	130	- ¼	..	..
200.20	Asprey	250	+ 1	0.6	34.3
49.60	Austin Reed	159	- 12	4.7	9.2
56.60	Beattie (J) 'A'	138	..	5.9	15.1
41.30	Bentalls	98	+ 1	2.7	10.6
71.70	Bellwinst	68½	- 1½	4.7	39.3
15.90	Blacks Leis	50	+ 1	5.7	25.3
305.70	Body Shop†	161	+ 8	2.0	9.6
5,550.20	Boots†	583	+ 3½	3.7	16.1
27.20	Brown & Jackson	22	..	..	..
391.30	Brown (N)†	268	..	2.4	20.4
1,891.30	Burton	133	- ½	2.1	76.8
16.60	Cantors	110	- 3	5.4	19.9
323.30	Carpetright	429	+ 21	3.1	25.1
345.60	Chelsea Int	211	..	1.3	35.8
38.50	Church	352	- 4	4.9	14.5
19.80	Clinton Cards	106	+ 2	5.7	13.3
27.70	Cly Casuals	145	+ 6	4.7	..
182.50	Courts Furnish	745	..	1.1	21.7
3.12	Crown Eyet	195	+ 4	7.1	6.0
403.30	DFS Furniture	387	+ 8	2.7	23.4
1,730.50	Dixons Gp	431	+ 26	2.1	26.0
6.96	Dyc (Wmside)	580	..	3.9	36.9
10.70	ERA Gp	8¼	- ¼	..	13.2
12.10	Essex Furnt	105	- 1	5.1	..
176.10	Etam†	192	- 1	4.1	..
332.10	Fine Art Dev	413	- 1	4.7	12.6
3.76	Finel Earth	66	..	1.9	23.8
24.90	Flying Flowers	137	- 3	2.0	17.9
33.30	French Conn	185	..	..	12.8
183.10	Frost Group†	195	- 3	4.1	16.4
17.80	Gieves	78	..	3.2	17.6
50.00	Goldsmiths Gp	225	+ 5	1.9	20.4
6,760.30	GUS	672	+ 3	2.8	17.6
79.10	Hamleys	347	- 2	2.8	15.5
11.20	Hampden Grp	75	+ 2	2.5	14.5
308.40	Hse of Fraser	173½	+ 8½	4.0	22.4
12.40	Hughes (TJ)†	80	..	6.5	13.3
19.00	Ingrams	136	- 2	1.7	68.9
161.40	JJB Sports	538	+ 10	1.4	25.1
3,672.80	Kingfisher	549	+ 23½	3.5	18.3
37.90	Kingsbury Grp	160	+ 7	1.9	22.5
70.40	Liberty	313	..	2.9	28.2
322.10	Lloyds Chem	280	- 7	4.9	9.8
932.00	MFI	160	+ 2	3.3	21.0
12,247.20	Marks Spencert	436	- 3½	3.0	18.9
349.20	Menzies (John)	628	- 1	2.6	14.1
105.10	Moss Bros	618	+ 15	2.8	18.0
1,696.00	Next†	493	+ 2	2.8	25.0
2.44	OEM	40	..	..	..
14.40	Oliver (G)	57	- 2	2.2	63.5
216.60	Orlianne Intl	405	+ 5	3.5	16.0
15.50	Partridge Fine	70	- 1	5.9	9.6
18.60	OS Hldgs	47	..	13.8	12.3
36.60	Rhino Grp	14	- 1½	..	..
43.50	Rosebys	192	..	3.2	22.2
1,543.90	Sears	101¼	+ 3	4.9	16.1
49.60	Signet Group	17	+ 1½	..	..
1,197.40	Smith WH	433	+ 8	4.6	14.9
304.70	Sotheby's	698	- 10	1.7	..
1,994.30	Storehouse†	333	- 9	2.5	20.5
54.40	Stylo	130	..	4.9	10.3
117.80	T & S Stores	181	- 2	4.6	11.5
85.00	Tie Rackt	165	..	2.1	17.3
4.75	Upton & South	2¼	- ¼	..	..
3,962.80	Vendomet	568	+ 8	2.2	20.8
23.30	WEW Group	16	- ½	5.5	9.5
8.41	Wld of Leather	53	..	3.5	64.1
76.00	Wyevale	198	+ 3	3.2	17.6

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5,294.10	Allied Domecq†	512	- 4	5.8	20.6
263.50	Bulmer (HP)	499	+ 1	3.1	16.7
79.30	Burn Stewart	132	- 8½	4.7	28.4
9,597.70	Grand Met	459	+ 8½	4.1	15.8
9,497.20	Guinness	469	+ 8½	3.8	14.6
430.20	Highland Distt	323	- 7	3.1	14.6
221.90	Macallan-Glen	189	- 1	0.9	41.9
85.60	Macdn Mrtn 'A'	625	..	2.2	17.6
608.40	Matthew Clark	679	+ 19	3.9	..
13.90	Merrydown Wt	118	..	2.1	..
275.00	Taunton Cider	260	+ 4	3.5	24.4

SUPPORT SERVICES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,212.20	ADT	873	- 10	..	..
11.70	Alphameric	28	+ ½	1.1	21.0
32.30	Aoto Sec	27	+ 3	..	8.2
1,159.10	BET Ordt	122	- 4	4.3	12.2
27.50	BNB Res	128	..	5.6	10.0
74.40	BPP	383	- 2	4.5	16.4
42.70	BSM	153	+ 2	5.4	11.6
49.00	Black & Edgtn	9	..	..	..
301.90	Borland	1062½	..	..	..
30.00	Brit Data Mgt	130	- 2	5.6	27.5
9.60	Brooks Service	80	..	3.9	17.7
209.40	CMG	328	- 2	1.8	17.0
77.60	CRT Gp	115	- 1	4.2	18.1
159.30	Capita Group	283	- 5	1.5	26.2
5.50	Cardinal Bus	21	..	..	..
924.20	Chubb Sec	339	+ 2	2.9	17.3
77.20	Corp Services	92	..	4.1	15.7
21.80	Coutts Cnslty	47	- 2	4.5	..
14.70	DCS Gp	78	- 3	1.6	15.5
220.80	Davis Service	215	+ 5	5.1	12.7
90.40	Delphi	356	+ 8	1.2	44.1
12.50	Dudley Jenkins	99	..	4.3	15.2
8.01	EW Fact	44	..	8.5	6.1
30.90	EI Data Prc	118	- 15	2.3	..
1,514.40	Hays	371	+ 13	2.4	19.9
190.70	Hogg Robinsont	219	+ 5	4.5	13.4
377.80	ISS 'B' DN	1458¼	+ 3½	1.8	12.9
132.60	JBA Hldgs	389	- 1	1.1	40.9
128.60	Johnson Clean	258	+ 5	5.2	14.6
22.60	Kalamazoo	116	+ 14	4.2	11.5
43.50	Kewill Syst	351	+ 7	2.4	12.4
4.77	Lasr-Scan	16	..	..	..
75.10	LBMS	297	- 20	..	..
289.20	Logica	462	- 9	1.7	21.5
36.00	MDIS	38	- 28	17.9	7.9
28.80	MMT Compt	246	- 1	3.2	15.1
39.30	MR Data Mngt	70½	- 1½	6.3	50.1
87.10	Macro 4	423	+ 1	6.5	11.5
1,232.80	Manpower	1658¾	- 112¾	0.5	..
85.30	Micro Focus	565	- 8	..	..
70.70	Microgen	179	- 2	5.1	15.4
481.90	Misys	575	+ 2	2.0	16.4
79.40	MITIE Gp	314	+ 18	1.2	25.6
19.00	Nova Group	35	..	4.3	11.1
7.50	OIS Intl	25	+ 6	1.5	..
15.50	Orbist	30	..	2.7	14.6
120.20	P & P	151	- 4	2.3	15.3
102.80	Michael Page	168	+ 1	2.5	18.8
73.90	Parity	175	..	1.4	21.4
13.20	Pegasus	210	- 9	3.0	15.1
4.62	Penna†	64	..	1.5	49.0
22.60	Proudfoot	38¼	+ 1½	8.8	..
20.40	RCO	191	- 2	10.5	7.6
15.00	Radius	54	- 3	2.7	15.0
22.50	Real Time	178	..	3.2	11.8
33.80	Reed Executive	106	..	2.4	12.0
52.00	Reliance Sec	230	+ 9	3.4	21.6
3,319.40	Rentokil	337	+ 5	1.4	26.0
55.90	Ricardo Group	126	- 12	6.2	13.9
33.80	Rolfe & Nolan	270	..	2.0	40.0
347.40	Sage Gp	325	- 15	0.9	..
789.00	Salvesen (C)†	284	- 1½	4.0	13.3
58.20	Sanderson Elect	141	-	3.3	16.3
119.40	Select App	17	..	..	30.1
501.70	Serco Gp	536	- 3	1.0	25.6
217.90	Sercol Gp	388	- 7	1.4	26.8
13.10	Sherwood Comp	185	+ 1	1.5	..
81.10	Sketchley	126	- 2	3.5	16.3
5.16	Standard Plat	16½	- 1	..	..
44.10	Stat-Plus	205	..	6.1	18.8
133.80	Unipalm	650	..	..	..
27.90	Vistec	22¼	- 1½	2.9	..
55.90	Wace Howd†	235	..	4.4	11.2

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
22,109.30	BT	351½	+ 7	6.4	12.4
10,037.90	Cable Wireless†	454	+ 9	2.6	19.3
478.90	General Cable	189	- 6	..	..
949.00	NYNEX Cable	114	- 9	..	..
69.60	Securicor	1678	- 5	0.3	..
714.60	Securicor 'A'	880	- 13	0.6	..
973.40	Security Serv	888	- 10	1.1	..
1,435.20	TeleWest	156	- 7½	..	..
6,825.70	Vodafone†	233½	+ 9	2.1	27.4

TEXTILES & APPAREL

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1.82	Albion	48	- 2	6.2	2.6
60.50	Alexdra W	179	+ 2	4.3	18.6
160.80	Allied Text	229	- 1	3.8	13.4
3.56	Atkins	108	- 1	9.4	19.9
1.51	Automagic†	26	..	..	6.6
201.80	Baird (Wm)†	174	- 3½	6.7	12.7
151.00	Black (Peter)	272	..	2.3	17.4
16.20	Bridport-Gndryt	160	- 1	2.8	19.2
18.00	Br Mohair	135	+ 5	8.3	8.4
2.70	Campari	26	- 1	..	..
34.80	Chamb Phipps	78	- 1	13.3	4.5
151.50	Claremont Grt	277	+ 7	4.2	13.3
1,217.10	Coats Viyella†	174	+ 4	6.2	11.7
381.20	Courtaulds Text	368	- 29	5.2	10.6
18.80	Dallywirt	155	- 1	4.8	8.6
207.30	Dawson†	106	- 3	3.5	..
232.70	Desthist (J)	179	- 4	2.1	17.2
4.18	Dexter Hest	34	..	6.1	8.6
5.62	Drummondt	36½	- 2	3.5	8.1
2.22	Ebital	17½	- 1½	..	..
3.04	Faupel	26	- 1	18.5	5.0
68.20	FII	443	..	4.2	..
12.30	Foraminster	121	..	3.6	8.3
1.34	Foster (John)	12	+ 1	..	..
8.14	French	68	..	6.6	34.1
31.50	Gent SR	87	..	3.6	7.9
28.30	Haggas	129	+ 1	2.9	16.9
35.60	Hartstonet	11	+ ½	3.6	34.2
24.80	Helene Plct	12½	- ½	13.4	5.5
74.70	Hicking Pncst†	315	+ 4	2.3	17.5
16.80	Hollas	12½	- 1½	5.6	..
3.19	Honeysuckle†	38	..	7.1	8.8
30.90	Horace Small	90	- 1	..	7.2
17.30	Jacques Vert	182	..	4.6	8.4
6.60	Jerome (S)	75	..	2.9	7.5
76.80	Jones Stroud	444	- 6	2.8	16.5
16.10	Lambert	138	..	6.4	10.6
74.60	Lamont	248	..	6.5	9.8
76.90	Leeds†	259	+ 7	3.2	..
18.10	Leslie Wise Gp	52	+ 4	10.2	8.6
3.96	Lyles (S)	55	- ½	..	..
42.50	Mastinq	23¼	..	..	..
1.72	PEX	8½	- ½	..	..
16.80	Parkland†	183	..	3.9	7.9
408.40	Pentland	113	..	3.5	16.3
11.90	Pitards	55	- 1	2.8	..
137.90	Readicut	70	..	6.1	18.6
10.40	Ronsnet	66	- ½	6.4	7.0
8.89	Richards	39	..	6.7	..
3.20	SEET	64	..	..	..
120.20	Sherwood Gp	107	+ 2	3.9	12.9
5.68	Shiloh	98	- 2	4.8	6.5
49.80	Sirdar	92	- 1	7.5	24.8
37.60	Stirling Gp	43	+ 2	6.1	9.2
29.00	Strong & Fisher	17	..	8.8	17.1
6.93	UK Safety	18	- 1	16.4	22.4
12.60	Usher (Frank)	175	- 2	7.1	8.9
10.20	Wensum	134	+ 4	4.1	13.1
37.50	Yorklyde	335	..	2.8	11.8

TRANSPORT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
9.27	Air London	180	- 7	4.9	12.7
9,664.50	All Nippon Air	670	+ 5	0.3	..
1,061.90	Assoc Br Ports	278	- 6	2.8	16.7
5,010.70	BAA†	486	+ 19½	2.7	16.4
4,526.50	Br Airwayst	472	+ 1½	3.4	11.7
13.80	Central Trans R	12½	- 3½	..	..
23.70	Clarkson (H)	106	..	2.8	17.3
70.10	Clydeport	170	+ 7	2.6	15.7
33.40	Dart	214	+ 2	2.9	13.6
400.00	Eurotunnel Uts	87	- 2	..	..
307.60	FirstBus	157	+ 17	3.8	..
20.50	Fisher (James)	85	+ 5	2.6	17.8
259.10	Forth Ports	570	- 10	2.3	19.0
103.70	Go-Ahead	384	..	2.3	10.5
135.20	Goode Durrant	250	- 1	3.6	12.3
32.70	IoM Steam	109	+ 1	5.0	26.3
120.60	Irish Cont	478	..	1.0	11.9
44.50	Jacobs	65	- 1	2.0	..
80.00	Lon O'seas Frct	82	- 1	0.8	16.6
379.50	Mersey Docks	424	- 3	4.3	16.2
958.70	NFC†	138	+ 6	6.6	..
348.00	Natl Express	358	+ 13	3.1	14.1
593.60	Ocean Group	382	- 4	4.7	27.4
33.70	Ocean Wilson	25	- 1	6.2	3.3
2,843.50	P & O Dfd	470	+ 5	8.1	12.5
107.30	P & O 5.5%	161	- 5	4.3	..
15.60	Seacon	63	+ 1	4.5	35.8
91.20	Serviceair	227	- 1	2.1	31.1
494.30	Stagecoach	330	+ 48	2.2	19.2
491.80	TNT	86	- 3	..	..
174.60	Tibbett & Britn	395	+ 35	5.1	12.8
271.20	TDG	183	+ 4	6.5	12.1
16.50	Ugland▼	68	..	3.8	11.3
29.60	Utd Carriers	88	+ ½	7.0	16.7

WATER

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,634.30	Anglian†	608	+ 2½	5.5	9.3
74.00	Mid Kent Hlgs†	430	+ 7	3.9	11.6
3,210.30	North West▼	604	+ 27½	5.5	7.8
816.70	Northumbrian†	1170	+ 1	3.2	9.1
2,495.60	Severn Trent	680	+ 6	5.6	8.1
149.90	South Staffs†	2398	+ 35	3.8	13.9
665.20	South West†	523	+ 15	6.7	7.3
1,056.10	Southern	688	+ 31	5.0	8.2
2,236.70	Thames†	535	- 6	5.9	7.6
941.60	Welsh†	788	+ 20	6.9	9.2
142.60	Welsh Wtr Pf	108	- 1½	9.5	..
736.50	Wessex	344	+ 10	5.1	7.3
1,218.70	Yorkshire†	598	- 7	5.9	7.8

Source: Finstat

© UCM # Price at suspension, † Ex dividend, ‡ Ex scrip, ▲ Ex rights issue, ▼ Ex all, § Ex capital distribution. * Figures or report awaited. .. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
	SHORTS (under 5 years)				
770	Treas 14% 1996	100 [illegible]xd	[illegible]	13.92	6.68
1,150	Treas 15¼% 1996	103 [illegible]	[illegible]	14.79	6.18
800	Exch 13¼% 1996	102 [illegible]	[illegible]	12.91	6.23
3,409	Conv 10% 1996	103 [illegible]	[illegible]	9.68	6.12
1,986	Treas 7% 1997	101 [illegible]	[illegible]	6.91	6.15
1,290	Treas 13¼% 1997	107 [illegible]	[illegible]	12.35	6.17
3,700	Exch 10½% 1997	104 [illegible]	[illegible]	10.03	6.15
5,550	Treas 8¾% 1997	104 [illegible]	[illegible]	8.41	6.18
830	Exch 15% 1997	114 [illegible]	[illegible]	13.05	6.26
3,550	Exch 9¾% 1998	106 [illegible]	[illegible]	9.14	6.28
8,150	Treas 7¼% 1998	101 [illegible]	[illegible]	7.12	6.39
1,200	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	100		6.75	3.77
970	Treas 14% 1998-01	116 [illegible]	[illegible]	12.00	6.43
935	Treas 15½% 1998	122 [illegible]	[illegible]	12.66	6.48
3,909	Exch 12% 1998	114 [illegible]	[illegible]	10.51	6.56
1,900	Treas 9½% 1999	108	[illegible]	8.80	6.58
3,050	Exch 12¼% 1999	116 [illegible]	[illegible]	10.54	6.63
1,252	Treas 10½% 1999	111 [illegible]	[illegible]	9.42	6.68
6,600	Treas 6% 1999	97 [illegible]	[illegible]	6.14	6.71
1,798	Conv 10¼% 1999	111 [illegible]	[illegible]	9.18	6.81
	MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)				
5,358	Conv 9% 2000	107 [illegible]	[illegible]	8.35	6.87
4,800	Treas 8% 2000	104 [illegible]	[illegible]	7.65	6.86
3,171	Treas 13% 2000	123 [illegible]xd	[illegible]	10.52	6.89
4,406	Treas 10% 2001	112 [illegible]	[illegible]	8.87	6.99
2,750	Treas 7% 2001	99 [illegible]	[illegible]	7.02	7.04
6,527	Treas 9¾% 2002	112 [illegible]	[illegible]	8.63	7.24
8,600	Treas 8% 2003	103 [illegible]	[illegible]	7.70	7.31
2,503	Treas 10% 2003	115 [illegible]	[illegible]	8.68	7.35
1,620	Treas 11½% 2001-04	118 [illegible]	[illegible]	9.70	7.16
543	Fund 3½% 1999-04	82 [illegible]	[illegible]	4.26	6.21
3,412	Conv 9½% 2004	112 [illegible]	[illegible]	8.44	7.52
6,500	Treas 6¾% 2004	95 [illegible]	[illegible]	7.10	7.52
8,900	Treas 8½% 2005	106 [illegible]	[illegible]	7.97	7.52
4,942	Conv 9½% 2005	112 [illegible]	[illegible]	8.43	7.57
2,200	Treas 12½% 2003-05	129 [illegible]	[illegible]	9.64	7.46
6,000	Treas 7¾% 2006	99 [illegible]	[illegible]	7.53	7.54
3,900	Treas 7¾% 2006	101 [illegible]	[illegible]	7.86	7.58
2,000	Treas 8% 2002-06	102 [illegible]	[illegible]	7.79	7.60
3,150	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	123 [illegible]	[illegible]	9.51	7.41
7,397	Treas 8½% 2007	106 [illegible]	[illegible]	7.97	7.62
1,250	Treas 13½% 2004-08	136 [illegible]	[illegible]	9.89	7.47
5,621	Treas 9% 2008	110 [illegible]	[illegible]	8.14	7.67
3,450	Treas 8% 2009	102 [illegible]	[illegible]	7.81	7.71
	LONGS (over 15 years)				
4,750	Treas 6¼% 2010	86 [illegible]	[illegible]	7.25	7.78
5,273	Conv 9% 2011	110 [illegible]xd	[illegible]	8.12	7.78
5,360	Treas 9% 2012	111 [illegible]	[illegible]	8.10	7.78
1,800	Treas 5½% 2008-12	81 [illegible]	-1	6.76	7.50
6,100	Treas 8% 2013	102 [illegible]	[illegible]	7.84	7.78
800	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	99 [illegible]	[illegible]	7.78	7.79
8,500	Treas 8% 2015	102 [illegible]	[illegible]	7.82	7.76
7,550	Treas 8¾% 2017	109 [illegible]	[illegible]	7.98	7.81
1,000	Exch 12% 2013-17	139 [illegible]	[illegible]	8.62	7.87
	UNDATED				
1,909	War Ln 3½%	44 [illegible]	[illegible]	7.85	
475	Treas 2½%	31 [illegible]	[illegible]	7.89	
358	Consols 4%	49 [illegible]	[illegible]	8.05	
	INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:			10%	5%
1,200	Treas IL 2% 1996	215 [illegible]	[illegible]		1.37
800	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	112 [illegible]	[illegible]	1.26	2.48
1,700	Treas IL 2½% 2001	178 [illegible]	[illegible]	2.79	3.30
1,700	Treas IL 2½% 2003	174 [illegible]	[illegible]	3.01	3.40
1,000	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	115 [illegible]	[illegible]	3.05	3.41
1,958	Treas IL 2% 2006	182 [illegible]	[illegible]	3.17	3.45
2,050	Treas IL 2½% 2009	165 [illegible]	[illegible]	3.25	3.49
2,350	Treas IL 2½% 2011	171 [illegible]	[illegible]	3.29	3.50
2,750	Treas IL 2½% 2013	141 [illegible]	[illegible]	3.34	3.53
3,060	Treas IL 2½% 2016	150 [illegible]	[illegible]	3.40	3.57
2,900	Treas IL 2½% 2020	144 [illegible]	[illegible]	3.45	3.60
2,700	Treas IL 2½% 2024	120 [illegible]	[illegible]	3.44	3.58
1,300	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	119 [illegible]	[illegible]	3.45	3.59

Number of low-paid claimants 'doubles'

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

LOW-PAID benefit claimants have doubled in number over the past five years, suggesting that falling unemployment leads to low-paid work, a leading jobs pressure group says today.

Business leaders favour the extension of in-work benefits as the way to help people out of unemployment. The Government and the Labour Party also see such benefits as important in moving people from welfare to work.

But the independent Unemployment Unit says that in-work benefits, such as the Government's family credit scheme, are the wrong way to take people out of unemployment. Such benefits, it says, provide little help with claimants' living standards and act as a sharp disincentive to improving earnings or moving people into better paid work.

Drawing on government data, the unit says that the number of low-paid people claiming family credit — a benefit aimed at assisting working people with children — has doubled over the past three years.

According to information compiled from parliamentary answers and government spending plans, the unit says that 605,800 people now receive family credit, up from 309,000 in 1990.

Most of that rise, the unit says, has taken place since 1992-93, in the period when job growth started again after the worst of the recession — reinforcing the idea that the increase in the number of people claiming the benefit reflects a move from unemployment into low-paid work.

Family credit is now worth almost £50 per week for those with weekly earnings of a little over £100. The unit says that government expenditure on the benefit has trebled over the past five years, up from £425 million in 1989-90 to £1.4 billion now.

The unit argues that this sharp increase in family credit claimants and payments means that the original policy goal for the benefit "may become dangerously distorted". Instead of being a means to alleviate family poverty, the unit says that the benefit has now become a "vast programme which offers arbitrary state subsidies to low-pay employers".

Dismissing the idea of it being used as a model for the extension of further in-work benefits, the unit calls for what it sees as a more effective policy that would combine higher wage levels, underpinned by a statutory minimum, and an in-work benefit that complements earnings rather than acts as a substitute for them.

Paul Convery, the unit's director, said: "These findings are a timely reminder at Christmas time that poverty pay is the other side of the coin of falling unemployment.

"While the number of unemployed claimants declines, too many people are being shifted from out-of-work benefits to in-work benefits."

Merged TSB price discounted

BY PATRICIA TEHAN
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

SHARES in the newly merged Lloyds TSB bank are expected to open at a discount to their notional new value, when trading begins tomorrow.

Although the shares should open at 317p, City analysts forecast that they will fall in value. One said: "The feeling is that the cost reductions the management have talked about are already reflected in the price."

Michael Trippitt, analyst at SBC Warburg, used the previous market capitalisation of the two banks, excluding the special £1 billion dividend to be paid to TSB shareholders, and divided by the number of new shares to reach the notional value.

But there is unlikely to be widespread selling. One analyst said institutions would continue to add to their holdings because of the group's market share, opportunity for future cost-cutting and its acquisition prospects.

The special cash dividend of 68.3p per share will be paid on January 18 to TSB shareholders on the register when the scheme becomes effective. New Lloyds TSB share certificates will also be sent out on January 18. TSB share certificates will remain valid.

ADRIAN BROOKS

Simon Bee, managing director of Kingsbury Group, celebrates the opening of a store near Kew Gardens, southwest London, yesterday, one of the busiest days of the year *for furniture retailers. The 10,000 sq ft store brings the total owned by Kingsbury to 69*

AIM value tops £2.23bn as prospects increase

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

PROSPECTS for the Alternative Investment Market, the new market for smaller and growing companies that has completed its first six months, appear brighter than ever.

The number of companies traded on AIM has expanded to 121, compared with just ten listed when the new market started life on June 19. Capitalisation has increased steadily to end last week at £2.23 billion, while money raised on AIM stands at £90.3 million.

Julian Palfreyman, a director at Winterflood Securities, a market-maker in all of the stocks listed on AIM, is pleased with the new market's progress.

He said: "It's gone very well — beyond our expectations. Prospects remain bright and the introductionof an FT-AIM index from January 2 is good news as institutions will be able to measure the market's performance."

Mr Palfreyman said Pet City, the pet superstore group that joined the market a couple of weeks ago after a 300p-a-share placing, looks healthy at 380p, while Stanford Rook Holdings, the pharmaceuticals company, advanced to 252p after a placing last week at 200p, making it a share that was heavily oversubscribed.

PolyMASC Pharmaceuticals, the biopharmaceutical company that intends to license products and processes to the pharmaceutical and medical diagnostics industry, also made a healthy AIM debut.

Dealers had been expecting a 50p first-day premium when the shares started trading last Tuesday, but this was restricted to 30p, largely because of the volatile conditions that hit the market in the wake of last Monday's surprise 101-point tumble on Wall Street. The shares ended the week at 125p, compared with a 100p placing price.

Electrophoretics International, the medical diagnostic company, jumped 20p to 172p on Friday, after the group entered into an exclusive collaborative and licensing agreement with the CVL, an executive agency of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Under the agreement, Electrophoretics and CVL will undertake research to identify protein markers that could be used for the diagnosis of BSE, the so-called mad cow disease.

Looking ahead, dealers await the return of Ian Gowrie-Smith, the former head and founder of Medeva, who is due to make a comeback on the AIM market with his SkyePharma vehicle, which effectively reversed into Black & Edgington, the business support services group, on January 9.

Dow moves higher on light turnover

NEW YORK: Wall Street shares were higher in thin trading as many market players stayed at home on the first session after Christmas. Hugh Johnson, chief investment officer at First Albany, said: "Things are trending upwards in thin trading in a follow-through from last week."

At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was up 14.81 points to 5,112.78. "big board" advances led declining issues by about 11 to nine on volume of 91,660,750. Michael Metz, chief investment strategist at Oppenheimer & Co, said: "Most institutions are out of the market, which accounts for the light volume. There is a lot of year-end portfolio realignment, window-dressing. But the advance is not as strong as it looks in that the breadth is fairly narrow. All in all, it's a typical post-Christmas sellers' strike." *(Reuter)*

ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (pence)	Wkly +/–	Yld %	P/E
15.50	AMCO Corp	109		5.2	12.0
0.94	Abacus Recruit	18			
18.10	A de Gruchy	123		5.7	10.2
6.12	African Gold	7¼	+ ¼		
	Albemarle & Bd	13¼	– ¼		
10.60	Alpha Omikron	19			
39.20	Ann St Brewery	410	– 5	5.3	12.3
5.24	Ann St Cv Pf	885		9.0	
86.40	Antonov	123	– 5		
11.70	Ask Central	73			
	Athelney Trust	60			
4.37	Baris Hldgs	17			
4.12	Belcanto	46			
	Bowness Leis	145			
	Bown Leis Cv Pf	70			
5.25	Brancote Hdgs	53	– 2		
28.00	Brockbank	240		3.3	24.0
	CCI Hldgs	116	+ 1		
	CCI Founder Shs	110			
2.74	Cafe Inns	98		2.6	8.1
8.52	Caledonian Tst	75			9.1
11.90	Card Clear	60			
3.96	Cassidy Bros	72		5.2	10.3
1.79	Cavendish W F	41			20.8
5.58	Celebrated Group	19	+ 1		
17.00	Celtic	6550			
	Celtic Pf Shs	6450			
14.70	CI Comms(TV)	109	– 1	2.8	13.9
5.58	Chartwell Intl	62			
13.10	ClubPartners	31			
12.20	Com de Prt Fin	510			
7.99	Conister Tst	40		2.5	17.1
10.90	Country Gdns	61	+ 1	2.5	12.6
2.57	Cntry Gdns Pf	70		9.5	
39.20	Creos Intl	109			
14.00	Crown Products	53			
11.30	DBS Management	167		4.5	6.8
	Dalkeith Inns	35			
3.58	David Glass	66		5.5	9.4
39.30	Dawson Hdgs	860		4.2	11.9
3.21	Dean Corp	11			64.3
15.20	Dmatek	81	– 4		
111.20	Electrophoretics Intl	172	+ 14		
5.62	Euro Sales Fn	125			
	Farlake	305	+ 5		
1.77	Fint Publs	75			
20.80	Firecrest	125	– 8		54.4
6.00	Floral St	258	– 5	0.5	
4.81	Flomerics	188	– 12		17.1
14.20	Formscan	135	+ 2	1.9	17.6
4.65	Furlong Homes	93		3.2	5.0
25.30	Gander Hdgs	8¾	+ ¼		74.7
5.10	Greenhills	17			
32.40	Guiton	145	– 10	3.4	13.1
4.18	Hansom	41	– 9		
56.80	Hiscox Ded Ins	125	+ 5	0.3	
10.90	Indpt Radio	109			
14.70	Inner Workings	88	+ 2		
21.10	Intl Greetings	503			
3.38	Jasmin	83			
18.70	Jennings Bros	288		2.8	
49.20	KS Biomedix	130	+ 29		
25.70	Lancashire Enterprises	142		3.6	
	Lawrence	205		0.9	
53.70	Lawrie Group	2750		3.2	14.0

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (pence)	Wkly +/–	Yld %	P/E
46.40	Le Riches Strs	280		7.0	27.0
	Lifehome As Ten	95	+ 10		
21.80	Lon Fiduciary	2¼	+ ¼		
1.88	London Town	75	– 5		
11.70	Lonen Grp	205			
14.70	Maro & O'seas	25			
40.50	Megalomedia	94	– 13		
	Megalomedia Wts	82	– 12		
5.70	Meltek	90			40.2
250.40	Memory Corp	423	– 4		
6.04	Metrodome Films	21			
11.80	Moorepay	156	– 2	3.2	25.7
19.90	MultiMedia	69			
22.50	NWF Grp	300		2.7	14.5
	Nash (Wm)	175		4.7	
8.48	Neill Clerk	335		2.2	16.2
5.63	Neilson Cobbold	205		2.4	
	Norcity II	65			
	Norhomes	66			
8.59	Nthn Pelim	75			
0.13	Nthn Pelim Wts	8			
	Nthmb Res Prps	70			
16.70	Nursing Home	108	– 1	0.6	
9.68	Old English Pub	88		2.8	
5.49	Omnicare	89		2.1	14.8
12.20	Omnimedia	68			
10.70	Pacific Media	1			
	Pacific Med Pf	45			
7.20	Pan Andean Res	17½	+ 1½		
4.66	Park Ests(Liv)	195			
92.20	Pet City	380	+ 15		
25.00	Polymasc Pharms	125			
3.62	Preston Nth E	400			
1.07	Revelation Piccadilly	100			
11.20	Riceman Insce	17			
3.15	Rushmere Wynne	3½			
0.07	Rush Wyn Wrts	0¾			
13.20	SCS Satellite	128	– 2		
4.45	Scotswood Inds	20		6.2	60.8
	Scott Pride	41			
13.00	Scruttons	270		6.0	11.0
	Silkbarn	2½			
124.00	Southern News	526		3.7	14.7
	Southern Vectis	53			
44.10	Stanford Rook	252	+ 74		
13.10	Surrey Fr Inns	130	– 5	1.7	15.3
47.10	TRACKER Netwk	890	+ 5		
4.34	Tele Cred Eur	43	– 3		
	Tele Cred Wrts	31	– 5		
14.40	Toad	116	+ 6		
	Trinity Care	180		1.0	
	Trinity Care Pf	165			
194.30	Trocadero	46			
	Univent	40			
8.15	Utd Auctions	458		1.1	
	VDC	605			
35.70	Versailles Grp	13½			22.0
3.90	Viewinn	130			
	Voss	240	– 5		
	Wedderburn Secs	12			
	Wedd Secs Wrnts	5			
2.13	Westmount Engy	26			
8.31	W'chester M Md	75	– 1		
	Wynnstay Props	145	+ 1½		
	Zergo	170			

WALL STREET

	Dec 26 midday	Dec 22 close
AMP Inc	38	38
AMR Corp	73	72
AT & T	66	66
Abbott Labs	40	40
Advanced Micro	17	17
Aetna Life	71	72
Ahmanson (HF)	26	26
Air Prod & Chem	51	51
AirTouch Comm	28	27
Alberto-Culver B	36	35
Albertson's	32	32
Alcan Alumnm	31	31
Alco Standard	44	44
Allied Signal	48	48
Alum Co of Am	52	53
Amax Gold Inc	7	7
Amerada Hess	51	51
Amer Brands	44	44
Amer El Power	40	40
Amer Express	41	41
Amer Genl Corp	34	34
Amer Home Pr	95	95
Amer Intl	92	92
Amer Stores	26	26
Amer Standard	29	28
Ameritech	58	58
Amoco	70	71
Anheuser-Busch	66	66
Apple Computer	31	32
Archer Daniels	17	17
Armco	5	5
Armstrng Wrld	61	62
Asarco	31	31
Ashland Oil	36	36
Atl Richfield	111	110
Auto Data Pro	72	72
Avery Dennison	49	49
Avon Products	75	75
Baker Hughes	24	24
Baltim Gas & El	28	28
Banc One	37	37
BankAmerica	65	64
Bank of NY	48	48
Bankers Tr NY	66	66
Barnett Banks	58	58
Bausch & Lomb	39	39
Baxter Intl	41	41
Bectn Dicknsn	73	73
Bell Atlantic	67	65
Bell Industries	22	22
BellSouth	43	42
Black & Decker	34	34
Block (H&R)	40	40
Boeing	77	77
Boise Cascade	33	33
Bristol Myrs Sq	85	85
Browning Ferris	29	29
Brunswick	22	21
Burlington Nthn	76	76
CNA Financial	112	112
CPC Intl	68	69
CSX	43	43
Campbell Soup	59	59
Can Pacific	17	17
Cptl Cities ABC	124	124
Carolina Pwr	34	34
Caterpillar	60	60
Central & SW	27	27
Champion Intl	42	42
Chase Manhat	59	60
Chemical Bk	58	58
Chevron Corp	52	52
Chrysler	55	54
Chubb Corp	98	98
Cigna Corp	105	105
Citicorp	66	66
Clorox	72	71
Coastal Corp	37	37
Coca Cola	73	71
Colgate-Palmolive	70	68
Columbia Gas	43	43
ColumbiaHCA	50	50
Compaq Comp	50	49
Comp Ass Intl	59	59
Conagra	41	41
Conrail	68	68
Cons Edison	31	31
Cons Nat Gas	44	44
Cooper Inds	35	35
Corestates	37	37
Corning Inc	30	30
Crown Cork	41	41
Dana Corp	29	29
Dayton Hudson	75	75
Deere	35	35
Delta Air Lines	73	73
Deluxe Corp	28	28
Detroit Edison	34	34
Digital Equip	64	64
Dillard Dept St	28	28
Disney (Walt)	60	60
Dominion Res	41	41
Donelley (RR)	38	37
Dover Corp	36	36
Dow Chemical	70	70
Dow Jones	39	39
Dresser	23	23
Duke Power	47	47
Dun & Brdstreet	63	63
Du Pont	69	68
Eastman Kodak	66	66
Eaton Corp	53	53
Emerson Elec	78	78
Engelhard Corp	21	21
Enron Corp	37	37
Entergy	28	28
Ethyl Corp	12	12
Exxon	81	81
FMC Corp	67	67
FPL Group	46	46
Federal Express	70	70
Fed Nat Mtge	117	117
First Interstate	136	136
First Union Rlty	7	7
Fleet Finl Grp	42	41
Fluor Corp	65	65
Ford Motor	29	29
GTE Corp	43	43
Gannett	60	61
Gap Inc Del	42	43
Gen Dynamics	60	61
Gen Electric	72	71
Gen Mills	56	57
Gen Motors	52	51
Gen Reinsurance	155	154
Gen Signal	32	32
Genuine Parts	41	40
Georgia Pac	69	69
Gillette	51	51
Glaxo Wellc ADR	27	27
Goodrich (BF)	68	68
Goodyear Tire	44	44
Grace (W&R)	59	60
Grt Atl Pac Tea	23	23
Great Wstn Fin	25	25
Halliburton	49	49
Harcourt General	40	41
Heinz (HJ)	32	33
Hercules	56	57
Hershey Foods	65	65
Hewlett Packard	85	84
Hilton Hotels	61	61
Home Depot	47	47
Homestake Mng	15	15
Honeywell	47	47
Household Intl	58	59
Houston Inds	24	24
Humana	26	26
ITT Corp	51	51
Illinois Tool	58	59
Illinova	29	29
INCO	33	33
Ingersoll Rand	36	35
Inland Steel	25	24
Intel Corp	59	59
IBM	92	91
Intl Flav & Fr	49	49
Intl Paper	36	37
James River Va	23	23
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	86	86
Kellogg	76	76
Kerr-McGee	61	61
Kimberly-Clark	80	79
Kmart	7	7
Knight-Ridder	62	63
Lilly (Eli)	55	55
Limited Inc	16	16
Lincoln Nat	52	52
Litton	43	43
Liz Claiborne	27	28
Lockheed Martin	77	77
Louisiana Pac	24	24
MCI Comm	26	27
Marriott Intl	37	38
Marsh & McLnn	89	89
Masco Corp	30	30
May Dept St	42	42
Maytag Corp	20	20
McDonalds	45	44
McDonnell D	90	89
McGraw Hill	86	85
Mead Corp	52	51
Medtronic	55	55
Mellon Bk	52	52
Melville Corp	30	30
Merck Inc	64	65
Merrill Lynch	52	51
Microsoft	90	90
Minnesota Mine	63	64
Mobil Corp	111	111
Monsanto	122	123
Morgan (JP)	79	79
Motorola Inc	57	57
Natl Semi	23	23
Natl Service Ind	31	31
Navistar Int	11	11
NY Times A	29	28
Newmont Mng	43	43
Niag Mohawk	9	9
Nike B	65	66
NL Industries	12	12
Noram Energy	8	8
Nordstrom	40	41
Norfolk Sthrn	77	77
Nthn State Pwr	49	49
Norwest Corp	33	33
Nynex Corp	51	50
Occidental Pet	21	21
Ohio Edison	23	23
Oracle	44	44
Oryx Energy Co	13	13
Owens Corning	44	45
PPG Industries	44	45
PNC Bank	30	29
PP&L Res	24	24
Paccar Inc	45	45
Pacificorp	21	21
Pac Enterprises	28	28
Par Gas & Elect	27	27
Pac Telesis	33	33
Pall Corp	26	25
Panhandle East	27	27
Parker Hannifin	34	34
Peco Energy	29	30
Penney (JC)	45	44
Pennzoil	42	42
Pepsico	56	55
Pfizer	62	62
Pharm & Upjhn	39	39
Phelps Dodge	61	63
Philip Morris	89	88
Phillips Pet	33	33
Pitney Bowes	46	45
Polaroid	48	47
PriceCostco	14	15
Procter & Gmbl	83	83
Providian	40	40
Pub Serv E & G	30	30
Quaker Oats	34	34
Ralston Purina	62	62
Raychem Corp	56	56
Raytheon	45	45
Reebok Intl	27	27
Reynolds Metals	54	54
Roadway Srves	49	49
Rockwell Intl	52	52
Rohm & Haas	63	62
Royal Dutch	139	138
Rubbermaid	25	25
SBC Comms	57	56
Saleco Corp	34	34
St Paul's Cos	56	56
Salomon Inc	35	34
Sara Lee Corp	31	31
Scecorp	17	17
Schering Plough	56	55
Schlumberger	68	68
Seagram	35	35
Sears Roebuck	39	39
Shell Trans	81	81
Sherwin Wlms	40	40
Skyline Corp	21	21
Snap-On-Tools	45	45
Southern Co	24	24
Sprint Corp	39	40
Stanley Works	50	50
Sun Company	26	26
Sun Microsys	48	48
Suntrust	68	68
Supervalu	31	31
Sysco Corp	32	32
TRW Inc	77	76
TCC Inds	2	2
Tandem Comp	10	10
Tandy Corp	40	41
Teledyne	24	24
Temple Inland	42	42
Tenneco	47	47
Texaco	77	78
Texas Inst	52	51
Texas Utilities	40	40
Textron	71	70
Time Warner	38	37
Times-Mirror A	34	33
Timken	38	38
Torchmark	44	44
Toys R Us	23	23
Transamerica	73	73
Travelers	59	58
Tribune	60	60
Tyco Labs	35	34
UST Inc	34	34
UAL	176	177
US Inds	17	17
USX Marathon	19	18
Unicom	33	33
Unilever NV	139	139
Union Camp	47	47
Union Carbide	38	37
Union Pacific	65	65
Unisys Corp	5	5
USAIR Group	13	13
USF&G Corp	17	17
US Life	28	29
United Tech	95	95
Unocal Corp	29	29
VF Corp	52	52
WMX Tech	29	28
Wal-Mart Stores	22	23
Warner-Lambert	93	93
Wells Fargo	215	213
Westinghouse El	16	16
Weyerhaeuser	41	42
Whirlpool	53	53
Whitman	22	22
Winn Dixie	36	36
Woolworth	13	13
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	52	52
Xerox	138	138
Yellow Corp	12	12

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.17	2.01
Austria Sch	16.65	15.15
Belgium Fr	48.70	44.40
Canada $	2.207	2.047
Cyprus Cyp£	0.746	0.691
Denmark Kr	9.23	8.43
Finland Mkk	7.29	6.64
France Fr	8.04	7.38
Germany Dm	2.38	2.17
Greece Dr	388.00	363.00
Hong Kong $	12.55	11.55
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel Shk	5.3000	4.6500
Italy Lira	2554.00	2399.00
Japan Yen	171.90	155.90
Malta	0.592	0.537
Netherlds Gld	2.644	2.414
New Zealand $	2.50	2.28
Norway Kr	10.41	9.61
Portugal Esc	243.50	225.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.39
Spain Pta	195.50	182.50
Sweden Kr	10.87	10.07
Switzerland Fr	1.93	1.75
Turkey Lira	refer	84435.0
USA $	1.637	1.507

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading on Friday.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5415 (+0.0022)
German mark
2.2202 (+0.0007)
Exchange index
83.0 (same)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2660.5 (+27.2)
FT-SE 100
3658.3 (+15.7)
New York Dow Jones
5097.97 (-78.76)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
19744.42 (+397.87)

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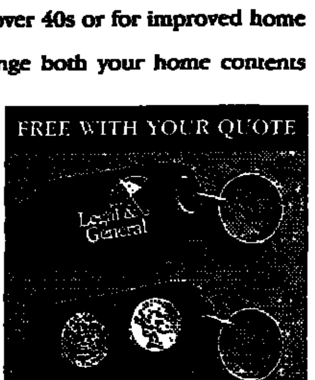

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An industry that grows as others shrink

Sarah Bagnall reports on the boom in management buyout and buy-in deals

The management buyout and buy-in industry is booming. In 1995, more than £5 billion worth of deals were done — the second highest recorded and over a third more than in the previous year.

The best year for the industry was 1989 when a record near £7 billion worth of deals were completed. This year's surge in activity in management buyouts and management buy-ins is expected to continue in the new year. Lucinda Horler Webber, a director of BZW Private Equity, says: "The prospects for next year look good. The value of deals in the first quarter of next year is expected to be very high."

On average, there have been two deals struck every working day this year as companies continue to sell off unwanted parts of their empires in a bid to concentrate on their core businesses. The good news for vendors is that they are getting better prices for their businesses than they would have received a couple of years ago. This reflects the large amount of funds available to invest in management buyouts and management buy-ins.

Mrs Horler Webber says: "There has been a lot of money flowing into the industry, which has increased competition." As a result, the average price of deals has risen sharply and vendors are selling businesses at higher price-earnings ratios.

Another factor influencing selling prices is that businesses' profitability has improved, increasing their worth. For the market as a whole, the number of deals slipped from 548 in 1994 to 542 in 1995.

In contrast, the average value of a deal rose 37 per cent to £9.2 million as venture capitalists have become involved in bigger deals. Mrs Horler Webber says: "Deals are falling into the management buyout and management buy-in categories now whereas five years ago they would have been trade sales. This is because institutions can do bigger deals because they have more funds at their disposal to invest."

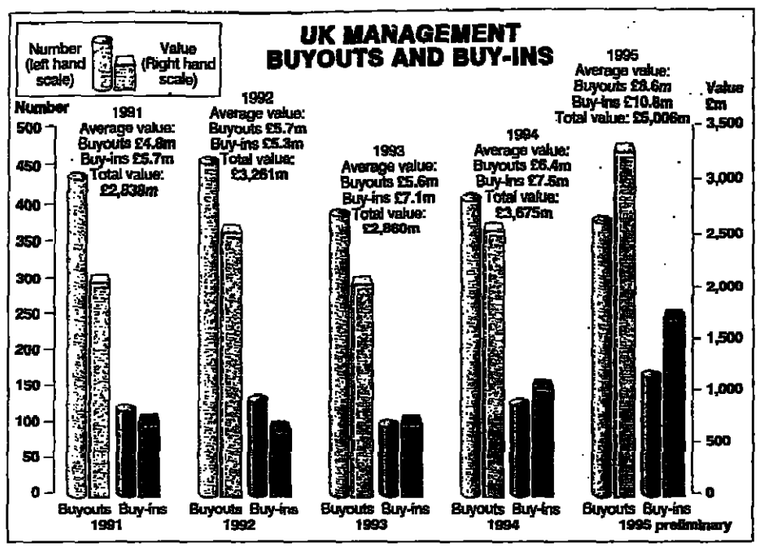
In the late 1980s, institutional bidders were often less competitive on price than trade bidders. But now, unless trade bidders have obvious synergies with a business, institutional bids are as competitively priced.

The institutions have the added attraction that they offer management a piece of equity. One implication of the fuller prices insitututions are paying is that the return they expect to make has fallen. Chris Ward, head of MBO services at Touche Ross, says: "We have seen quite a noticeable fall in the size of returns they expect. For example, for a management buyout, the venture capitalists used to require an internal rate of return of about 30 per cent per annum. This has now fallen to 25 per cent per annum — a significant fall."

According to statistics compiled by the Centre for Management Buyout Research, the number of management buyouts fell from 403 to 379 in 1995, while the average size leapt from £7.5 million to £10.8 million. The total value of management buy-ins reached £1.76 billion, compared with £1.08 billion in 1994. Mrs Horler Webber says: "Management buy-ins are increasing as a proportion of the total and they tend to be the larger deals."

Reflecting the increased management buy-in activity, both BZW and Touche Ross run key management buy-in candidate programmes. In both cases, the firms have about five top industrialists on their books who are backable as chief executives or managing directors in businesses. The firms then try to identify suitable target companies.

Mr Ward says: "We help these people to find a business to buy. They don't have to have money — expertise is the important thing." One example is Derek Morgan, a former director of St Ives, who led a management buy-in of McDermott & Chant, a maker of luxury diaries, including the Queen's appointment diary. Three months later, another company was acquired and added to the business, making a £25 million operation. Mr Ward says many management buy-ins are private companies with succession problems.



Demand brings relief but also pressure for restructuring in the aircraft sector

Planemakers cleared for take-off

The upturn for new aircraft comes none too soon for an industry that has slumped, says **Ross Tieman**

A recovery will begin in the world's civil aerospace industry this year after four years of contraction. Improved demand for new aircraft will provide a measure of relief for manufacturers caught up in the most intense competition the industry has known. But the pressures for further restructuring, including a reorganisation of Airbus Industrie and the mooted merger of Boeing with McDonnell Douglas, could lead to more remarkable changes before 1996 is through.

Confirmation of a sea change in the market came a few days ago, after the settlement of a ten-week strike by 32,000 Boeing machinists. Ron Woodard, president of Boeing Commercial Airplane Group, the world's biggest planemaker, announced that he planned to start lifting output of aircraft in the fourth quarter of 1996.

This — increase, after years of cutbacks — "reflects the turnround our airline customers are experiencing and underscores the positive long-term outlook for our industry," he said. The timing is another matter, however. Ironically the machinists' strike, occurring at the very nadir of the industry cycle, deferred production just when demand was at its slackest. By moving completion of 30 or more aircraft from 1995 into 1996, therefore, the machinists brought forward the recovery by a year.

And not a moment too soon. Look at the output figures for the world civil aircraft since 1990. From a peak of 834 commercial passenger jets in 1991, production is expected to have slumped to 439 in 1995.

This contraction has been accompanied by the loss of tens of thousands of jobs, concentrated most heavily at Boeing and McDonnell Douglas in America, at the partner companies of Airbus in Europe (Aérospatiale in France, Daimler-Benz Aerospace in Germany, British Aerospace and Casa in Spain) and among their suppliers.

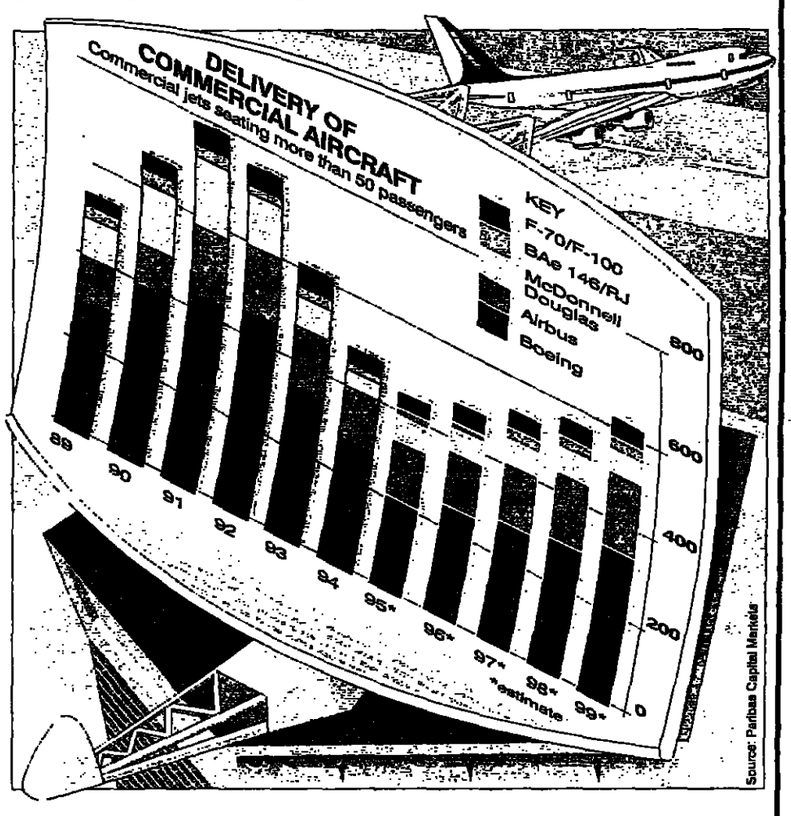
The job losses have raced far ahead of the drop in aircraft numbers. Airbus now competes against Boeing in every category of aircraft except the very largest jumbos. In the resulting battle for market share, each of the rivals has been wooing airlines with ever-lower prices. Extraordinary improvements in productivity have been achieved: more will be needed. Quality airlines can order the latest generation 130-seat Boeing 737, for delivery in three years time at a price 25 per cent below the current cost of production.

Aerospace is particularly vulnerable to cyclical shifts because of the long-term nature of the business — it takes five years or more to design a plane, and another 12 months to assemble it — and the lag between changes in travel patterns and demand for aircraft.

According to Chris Avery, aviation analyst at broker Paribas Capital Markets, production rates started falling in 1992, two years after recession began, just as air traffic began to show the first signs of an upturn. So even with pressure for fleet renewal to achieve fuel economies and meet lower noise limits, it has taken four years of steady increases in numbers of people flying before the airlines have stepped up the volume of new aircraft.

The increase in demand has proved uneven, however, and the manufacturers misjudged it badly. In the 1980s, both Airbus and Boeing began developing a new generation of sub-jumbo long-haul jets. Deliveries of the Airbus A330/A340 family began in 1994, while the first Boeing 777s entered airline service this autumn.

But the recovery in travel, and hence new aircraft orders, was initially concentrated in the 120-150 seat sector. Here the lastest version of the venerable Boeing 737 has been slugging it out with the Airbus A320 series and, more recently, McDonnell's new MD95.



These short-haul planes now sell for little more than $25 million each, compared to a list price of $120 million-plus for the new long-haul models. So the amount of work that each entails, and the amount of profit, is considerably less.

In 1995, however, leading airlines began to place orders aimed at modernising their their long-haul fleets, increasing capacity there, and enabling themselves to develop new "long-thin routes" that suit customers better than the hub-and-spoke operations beloved of American airlines.

So in the latter half of the 1990s, analysts expect a steady build-up in deliveries of new planes, with output concentrated at either end of the size range. According to Mr Avery, output will rise from an anticipated low of 439 aircraft worldwide during 1995 to reach 634 in 1999. The biggest beneficiary of the upturn will be Boeing, which accounted for almost half of all new aircraft in 1995. The winner in its stable is the new 777, because the first deliveries of the new 737 models will not begin until the end of the decade. But the tail-off in deliveries of the old model is now clearly going to be far less abrupt than anticipated.

Airbus, on the other hand, will record its strongest upsurge in the A320 family of single-aisle aircraft. Output is expected to surge from 62 planes in 1995 to 108 in 1999, not far from the 1991 peak of 119. Deliveries of the A330/A340 series will also pick up, matching those of the 777.

McDonnell will be saved from looming extinction by rising deliveries of its small jet, the MD90 series and MD95. But sales of the larger MD11 are forecast to remain flat: McDonnell would still benefit from merging its civil jet business with that of Boeing.

The market for regional jets is also showing some interesting developments. British Aerospace subsidiary Avro has enjoyed an astonishing resurgence since relaunching its BAe146 whisper jet as the Avroliner RJ series. As the order backlog builds, industry sources confirm that the company is set to step up production, perhaps sooner even than Mr Avery anticipates. Fokker is also looking for a modest recovery in delivery volumes after an upturn in the new order intake.

But the most striking change of all is in the ratio of deliveries achieved by Airbus, Boeing and McDonnell.

In 1989, the European consortium achieved 105 deliveries, or 18.7 per cent of the total, against 49.7 per cent for Boeing, and 21.6 per cent for McDonnell. In 1991, the market peak, Boeing achieved 50.5 per cent, McDonnell 20.2 and Airbus a 19.5 per cent share. By the end of this year, though, McDonnell will have been pushed far into third place, with just 11.4 per cent of sales, against 29.2 per cent for Airbus and 46 per cent for Boeing.

The European consortium, in which British Aerospace, as wing-maker, is a key player, has not just pushed McDonnell into third place: it has started to make inroads into Boeing's market share too.

If Mr Avery's projections are correct, then by 1999, the end of the forecast period, Airbus will still hold a 28.4 per cent share of total jet sales, against 51.7 per cent share for Boeing. But there is a key difference. Airbus will be selling more planes than ever before. Boeing will still be more than 100 aircraft a year below its 1992 peak.

This has profound implications. First, the attractions of a merger to McDonnell and Boeing will remain strong. Second, Airbus and its partners will enjoy continued growth in the volume of their civil jet business. This is particularly good news for British Aerospace, which, thanks to a remarkable transformation in manufacturing efficiency, is now one of the most cost-competitive aerospace companies in the world.

But to continue to win market share from Boeing, which is fighting back with aggressive cost cutting, BAe's Airbus partners in France and Germany must drive through cost reductions and efficiency gains which will not merely match the achievements of the Americans and BAe, but also compensate for the strength of the franc and the mark. That will be no easy task.

One solution which is moving to the fore once more is a reorganisation of Airbus, presently constituted as a Groupement d'Interêt Economique, into a corporation. In most industries, it is only once recovery has begun that restructuring gets underway. Aerospace is no different. 1996 will be an interesting year, on both sides of the Atlantic.

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THISTLE HOTELS

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 24

YERRA
(b) An asseverative oath or exclamation. Anglo-Irish colloquialism, also *yerrah*. James Joyce, *Dubliners*, 1914: "Yerra, sure the little hop-o'-my-thumb has forgotten all about it."

SPHECID
(c) A fossorial wasp of the family Sphecidae. From the modern Latin *sphēx* by way of Linnaeus *Systema Naturae*. "I saw a handsome, inch long, metallic blue-black wasp fly out from behind the row of books. It was a sphecid or mud dauber."

WEATINGS
(a) A proprietary name for the residue of the milling of wheat (the sharps) used as food for farm animals. A respelling of *wheat*, as in *middlings*. "Sharps, weatings or middlings have not been included in any of the above selection of suitable rations."

SIREX
(a) A wood-wasp or horntail of the genus *Sirex*, whose larvae burrow into the trunks of trees. Modern Latin from the Greek *seirēn* a solitary bee or wasp. "The dreaded sirex wasp has been found in pine plantations."

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RADIO CHOICE

Bored game we all play

I'm Bored. *Radio 4, 7.20pm.*

No programme about boredom can itself avoid being occasionally boring. It is an integral part of the boredom syndrome, and Dick Hobbs, who conducts this inquiry into the affliction, implicitly admits as much when he asserts that all of us are both victims and perpetrators of it. He does, however, keep the programme's yawn content down to the bare minimum. My eyelids were kept from drooping by revelations that the word boredom was unknown to English literature 150 years ago, that chickens and pigs get bored, and that one English university has a machine that can create boredom. I was disturbed by one girl's confession that she is "sick of being me — and I'm only 17".

Fairest Isle: Rescues and Scandals. *Radio 3, 1.00pm.*

There is a justifiable "boo sucks to you!" element in Carl Davis's introductions to his selection of film music. Some of the works were used as written: Richard Addinsell's *Warsaw Concerto* was one of them. Others were drastically revised — Davis's psalmodic score for the biblical epic *King David* was one such victim — or not used at all. William Walton's music for *The Battle of Britain* and Howard Blake's score for *Sirens* were dumped by the producers. Tonight's film music, conducted by Davis, includes reconstructions of scores that, until now, we have not had the chance to evaluate for ourselves.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Claire Sturgess **8.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Nicky Campbell **3.00pm** Dave Pearce **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** Star Review Darkman. Rap and ragga in 1995 **10.00** Best of 1 in the Jungle **12.00** Mark Tonderai

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Roger Royle **8.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Debbie Thrower **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Jim Lloyd **8.00** Over the Water (3/4) **8.30** Mrs Ackroyd Explores Her Roots (6/6) **9.00** Macgregor's Horizons (7/7) **9.30** Carlo Curley American organist **10.30** Martin Kelner *12.05am Sue McGarry 3.00 Alex Lester*

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.05am The Holly and the Archivy (r) **5.35** Christmas Quiz (r) **7.00** The Breakfast Programme **8.35** The Magazine **10.35** Brief Lives **11.05** I'll Eat My Hat **11.35** Pioneers and Presidents: the Influence of Protestant Ulster Scots in America (1/3) **12.00** Midday incl at 12.34pm Moneycheck; and at **1.15** Entertainment News **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, incl at **3.45** Entertainment News, plus racing from Chepstow **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **5.55** Trevor Brooking's Football Night, incl **6.00** Man Utd at home to Newcastle and **8.00** Bolton v Leeds **10.05** Sporting Life in the Movies with Henry Cooper **11.05** Ages of Being **11.35** Spaced Out **12.05am** After Hours **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sandy Wan **7.00** Simon Bates **10.00** Jonathan King **12.00** Tommy Boyd **2.00pm** Anna Raeburn **4.00** Scott Chisholm and Lowri Turner **7.00** Sean Bolger **9.00** Moz Dee **10.00** James Whale **1.00-6.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT **5.00am** Newsday **5.30** Europe **6.00** Newsday **6.30** Megamix **7.00** News **7.15** Peter Pan **7.30** Discovery **8.00** World News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Drama. A Child's Christmas in Wales **8.45** The High-C Hero **9.00** News in German **9.15** Andy Kershaw **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Peter Pan **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Meridian **12.00** News **12.05pm** Business **12.15** Britain **12.30** Composer of the Month **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Megamix **3.00** News in German **3.15** The Greenfield Collection **4.00** World News **4.15** World Today **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe **5.30** Business **5.45** Sports **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** News in German **7.00** News **7.01** Outlook **7.25** Faith **7.30** Multitrack **8.00** Newshour **9.00** News **9.05** Business **9.15** Britain **9.30** Ports of Call **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** The World Today **10.45** Sport **11.00** News **11.10** Pop Short **11.15** Sport **11.45** From Our Own Correspondent **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** The High-C Hero **12.45** Britain **1.00** News **1.10** Press Review **1.15** New Ideas **1.35** The Planets **1.45** Country **2.00** Newsday **2.30** Sport **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Assignment **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** Europe

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Nick Bailey **9.00** Mike Read **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Family Concert **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Newsnight **6.30** Sonata **7.00** Gardening Forum (r) **8.00** Evening Concert **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Sally Peterson

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast Experience **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham 'Dene' **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.30** Paul Coyte **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00-6.00am** Robin Banks

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, presented by Penny Gore. Stravinsky (Suite, Pulcinella); Dvořák (Symphony No 8 in G); Bach (Flute Sonata in A, BWV 1032), Field (Nocturne No 4 in A); Victoria (Magnificat primi toni); **8.05** Elgar (Serenade in E minor for strings); Busoni (Tanzwalzer)
9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini. Tchaikovsky (Suite, The Sleeping Beauty); Scarlatti (Sonatas: in D minor and D); Massenet (Suite No 7, Scènes alsaciennes)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Piers Burton Page. Holst (A Welcome Song); Blow (The Lord is my shepherd); Bliss (Meditations on a Theme of John Blow); **10.45** Artist of the Week: Kiri Te Kanawa, soprano. Duparc (A selection of songs); **11.00** Weiss (Prelude and Fugue in C); Beethoven (Piano Sonata in E minor); Goossens (Silence, Op 31); Holst (Terly Terlow)
12.00 Composer of the Week: Years at the Madeleine. Presented by Richard Langham Smith. Saint-Saëns (Bénédiction nuptiale in F, Coeli enarrant, Psalm XVIII; Fantaisie in E flat) (r)
1.00pm Fairest Isle: Rescues and Scandals. See Choice
3.00 Midwinter Choice Susan Sharpe plays listeners' requests for a winter's day
4.00 Choral Evensong, live from Westminster Abbey
5.00 The Music Machine. Robert King and Christopher Hogwood talk about "authentic" performances (r)
5.15 Fairest Isle Songbook Iain Burnside presents songs with a royal slant (r)
5.30 The Light Brigade. Stephen Banfield on a neglected tradition in British orchestral music. With musical contributions from Madeleine Dring, John Ireland, Haydn Wood, Frederic Curzon, Ivor Slaney, Edward White and Robert Farnon (r)
6.30 O Nightingale. Jutta Gooding, soprano, Rufus Müller, tenor, Frances Kelly, harp, Timothy Roberts, square piano, in a Radio 3 invitation concert given in September at the Royal College of Music, London
7.30 Amsterdam Mahler Festival. Anne Sofie von Otter, mezzo, Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra under Claudio Abbado. The eighth of 15 concerts featuring Mahler's symphonies and songs introduced by Humphrey Burton
9.20 The Fortunate Cat In the third of five conversations, Roy Fisher and Mel Hill discuss the many echoes upon which a pianist may draw. What about a poet?
9.30 Fairest Isle: A Renaissance Christmas BBC Singers and the Rose Consort of Viols under Bo Holten perform seasonal music for voices and viols by William Byrd, Anthony Holborne and Orlando Gibbons
10.45 The Shellac Show. Works by Tallis, Verdi and Rachmaninov, recorded on 78rpm records
11.30-12.30am Voices. Iain Burnside introduces favourite songs from the past year

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW only) **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55** **7.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day
8.40 A Christmas Carol, by Charles Dickens. Read by Richard Wilson (3/5) **8.58** Weather
9.00-10.00, 11.00-4.00pm Test Match Special (LW only). South Africa v England in the fourth Test
9.00 News (FM only) 9.05 Midweek (FM only), with Times columnist Libby Purves
10.00-10.30 News; A Good Read (FM only)
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 Children's BBC Radio 4: A Ghost for Christmas (LW only) Anna Keaveney reads RSB Limited, by Brian Jacques (2/5)
10.30 Walters' Festive Frolics. Skiing in Austria
NB: The following are on FM only until 4pm.
11.00 News; Trying to Connect You (2/2)
11.30 At Bertram's Hotel. With June Whitfield as Agatha Christie's Miss Marple (3/5)
12.00 News; Trumpton Riots In the third of five programmes, Maggie Philbin revisits Playschool
12.25pm Babblewick Hall First episode of Scott Cherry's six-part sit-com. With Nicholas Le Prevost as Fenton Babblewick
12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One (FM, LW)
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Box of Delights, by John Masefield. Concluding a two-part dramatisation by John Peacock
3.30 Kaleidoscope: Miller's Tales. The playwright Arthur Miller talks about Death of a Salesman, and the first time he met Marilyn Monroe (r)
4.00 News 4.05 Radio Lives Laurie Taylor celebrates the work of pioneering radio documentary-maker Charles Parker (r)
4.45 Christmas Short Story: Not So Tiny Tim, or God Bless Us, Everyone, by John Mortimer. Read by Nicholas Le Prevost
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 News 6.30 Kit and the Widow's Sound of Music
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 I'm Bored See Choice
7.45 With Great Pleasure. John Timpson presents highlights from the past 25 years
8.30 Syncopation. Tony Staveacre on the rhythmic contradiction of this musical phenomenon
9.00 Fire and Ice The verse of Robert Frost (r)
9.30 Kaleidoscope Feature: The Cut Above the Rest. Stephen Johnson goes in search of the Golden Section **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight
10.45 Book at Bedtime. Memo from David O. Selznick Read by Henry Goodman
11.00 Trust Satire (5/6) **11.30** Paris London (r)
12.00 News, incl **12.27am** Weather
12.30 The Late Book: Miss Smilla's Feeling for Snow, by Peter Hoeg (6/15)
12.48 Shipping Forecast **1.00 As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Maxey, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson

هدية من الاهرام

Brother, medieval-speak is the real mystery

REVIEW

Matthew Bond

Many people watching Shakespeare experience a moment of linguistic breakthrough. You know — the glorious moment, normally some ten to 20 minutes into the play, when that near-obsolete part of our brain labelled "iambic pentameter" kicks in. Suddenly, all those hasts, haths and harks fall perfectly into place and you discover that the play is indeed the thing.

Watching **Cadfael** (ITV) was a little like that last night. I mean, for an audience raised on a constant diet of *Cracker, Soldier, Soldier* and *London's Burning*, it takes a while to get used to lines such as "Brother Hospitalier, heat some stones on the kitchen hob" or "not so much as 30, nearer five or six and 20".

Eventually though, the part of my brain labelled "medieval mysteries" woke up and, once it had found a way round the much larger part labelled "hangover", supplied a translation. We were looking for a male Caucasian (or was it Cistercian?) in his mid-twenties. The hot stones, however, remained a mystery.

The story began as a sort of bad yuletide joke — there was this monk and this nun, see, and they got lost in a storm when suddenly lo, they came across a rude hovel replete with inviting hay and fragrant clover. Anyway, he promised to kick the habit if she'd waggle her wimple ...

And a bad yuletide joke it nearly remained, with several of the cast (no names, for 'tis the season of goodwill) yielding not to the flesh but to the florid. Let's face it, there's nothing like a few "sires", "prithees" and the occasional "good brother" to bring out the theatrical in a thespian, is there? The problem was, this was television.

Thankfully, Derek Jacobi was on hand to preserve order with a measured performance in the title role that never lost sight of the fact that on the small screen less is definitely more — no mean feat while sporting a monk's habit and a Judy Dench haircut (tonsure, naturally, excluded).

As well as the biggest part, Brother Cadfael, as Jacobi no doubt noticed, is by far and away the most interesting as well. He is a worldly monk, who in his past has not only eaten of the forbidden fruit but, as we discovered in an improbably neat twist, fertilised it too. Nowadays, or rather nowa-those-days, he pursues a life of crime-fighting in the cathedral and cloisters of medieval England — helped by as much wattle and daub, and torches and candles as the designers can muster. Medieval Shropshire, recreated on the plains of Hungary, looked splendid.

Mindful perhaps of the potentially alienating language, Russell Lewis (who incidentally adapted the last Inspector Morse) moved the plot along at occasionally alarming speed. No sooner would Cadfael shout: "We must find the children/ the nun/ Brother Oswin," than he would — normally about 45 seconds later. Pity the murderer who thought he would get away with it by hiding the body of the ill-christened Sister Hilaria in a frozen brook — Cadfael found that on his way home.

A breakthrough moment of a different kind came after five minutes of **Goodnight Sweetheart** (BBC1), and thank goodness it did. Laugh? I hadn't even smiled as Reg (Christopher Ettridge), the 1940s policeman who increasingly appears to have escaped from another sit-com entirely, held forth unamusingly at the bar of the Royal Oak. Had the curse of the Christmas special struck again?

It had not — for things picked up considerably with the arrival of Jayne Mansfield (Diana Kent), the man-eating estate agent who held the keys to Duckett's Plaza, a new row of shops built over the spot where Gary (Nicholas Lyndhurst) flits between 1995 and 1941 and, more specifically, between Yvonne (Michelle Holmes) and Phoebe (Dervla Kirwan). Now Gary needs another woman like he needs another hole in the time-space continuum ... but with Kent giving the part her flirtatious all, he was clearly tempted.

With time-warp infidelity very much in full swing — Yvonne was warning off Jayne while 44 years earlier Gary was getting out of bed with Phoebe — the humour increasingly leans towards the bitter rather than the sweet. But genuine comic relief came in the abundant form of co-conspirator but 1995-bound Ron (Victor McGuire). He had brought some shelves round for Gary's new shop in Duckett's Plaza and wanted help unloading them. "But if I go through the back to help you, I just disappear into 1941," moaned Gary. As Ron put it: "I've heard some excuses in my time .."

Much earlier, Boxing Day will have got off to an emotional start in many houses as parents settled their gift-laden offspring in front of **The Forgotten Toys** (ITV). Most children, I suspect, promptly wandered off to play with Barbie or the Power Rangers, sensibly leaving their parents to sob gently over this animated adaptation of James Stevenson's *The Night After Christmas*.

In this beautifully drawn film, with voices supplied by Bob Hoskins, Joanna Lumley, Sir Clement Freud and Andrew Sachs, Teddy and Annie, the rag doll, wake up on the night after Christmas — in the dustbin. They have been thrown out by their ungrateful children who have been given new toys. All together now ... ahhh. Throw out the children and keep the toys appeared to be the sensible moral but it seemed I had missed the point.

For after several adventures, the two toys discovered there were still children who would love them after all. Hurrah! Still, I think my solution is quieter.

BBC1

7.00am News (Ceefax) (4756485)

7.10 Christmas Specials: The Little Drummer Boy (2372843) **7.35 Favourite Songs** (7296843) **8.00 News** (Ceefax) (4016379) **8.10 Joe 90** (r) (5831466) **8.35 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles** (r) (Ceefax) (7094737)

9.00 News (Ceefax) (5177008) **9.05 Global Gatecrash** (s) (8296992) **9.30 Stone Protectors** (r) (99379) **10.00 Playdays** (s) (1981553) **10.25 William's Wish Wellingtons** (r) (s) (5132089)

10.30 FILM: Thoroughly Modern Millie (1967) with Julie Andrews, Carol Channing, Mary Tyler Moore and James Fox. Oscar-winning, entertaining but uneven 1920s farce with music, directed by George Roy Hill (Ceefax) (15711060)

12.45pm Cartoon (64251669) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (12934027)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (48495244)

1.10 Neighbours. A change of heart for Libby and a fresh start for Lucy. (Ceefax) (s) (44070350) **1.35 Cartoon** (15069640)

1.50 The Greatest Music Party in the World. Part 2. Including David Bowie, East 17 and Eternal. Part 1 shown on December 25 (s) (2373909)

3.20 FILM: Back to the Future II (1989, PG) with Michael J. Fox, Christopher Lloyd. Sequel to the time-travel adventure. Directed by Robert Zemeckis (Ceefax) (s) (19185843)

5.05 Blue Peter — The Best Bits. Highlights from the whole year (1/2) (Ceefax) (s) (2013669)

5.35 Neighbours. Sandy loiters with odd intent. Is Cody's long distance love cooling? (r) (Ceefax) (s) (299927)

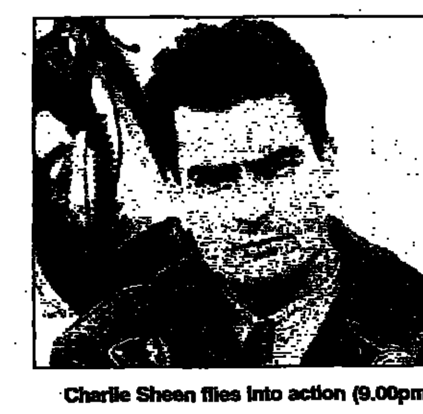
6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (956911)

6.15 Regional News magazines (951466)

6.30 Animal Hospital Down Under — A Christmas Special. Rolf Harris meets some exotic patients when he returns to his native Australia. (Ceefax) (s) (530973)

7.20 This Is Your Life. Michael Aspel opens the big red book for an extended look at the life of someone in showbusiness. (Ceefax) (s) (523843)

8.00 CHOICE **Jobs for the Girls. Pauline and Linda Plan a Party** (Ceefax) (s) (8260)



Charlie Sheen flies into action (9.00pm)

9.00 FILM: Hot Shots! (1991) with Charlie Sheen. A comedy spoof in the vein of *Airplane*, directed at Tom Cruise and *Top Gun*. . Directed by Jim Abrahams (Ceefax) (s) (3650176)

10.25 News (Ceefax) regional news and weather (917398)

10.50 CHOICE **Sorry About Last Night** with Alexei Sayle (Ceefax) (s) (120973)

11:40 FILM: Carry On Dick (1974) with Sid James, Barbara Windsor, Kenneth Williams, Hattie Jacques, Bernard Bresslaw and Joan Sims. Part of the Carry On Christmas season. The adventures of highwayman Dick Turpin, known here as Big Dick. Directed by Peter Rogers (Ceefax) (837669)

1.10am Weather (2419041) **NORTHERN IRELAND: 1.10am** Inside Ulster News **WALES: 1.10am** News headlines and weather (2419041)

BBC2

7.15 FILM: Modern Times (1936, b/w) Charlie Chaplin's final silent film. (1862447)

8.40 FILM: Woman of the Year (1942, b/w) with Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn. Directed by George Stevens (56810911)

10.30 The Voyages of Charles Darwin. *My Mind Was a Chaos of Delight* (2/6) (r). (26176)

11.30 The Royal Institution Christmas Lectures — Planet Earth, an Explorer's Guide. Dr James Jackson looks at what makes up the planet Earth (s) (43783)

12.30pm Celebrity Mantelpiece. The late Sir Kingsley Amis. (Ceefax) (s) (54627114)

12.40 Racing from Chepstow (s) (34811008)

2.50 A River of Sound. Irish music (1/3) (8101089)

3.50 Close Up. Teresa Gorman MP picks her favourite film moment (9152992)

3.55 FILM: On a Clear Day You Can See Forever (1970) with Barbra Streisand, Yves Montand. A woman in hypnotherapy discovers that in a previous life she was an English aristocrat. With Bob Newhart, Irene Handl, Jack Nicholson. Widescreen format. Directed by Vincente Minnelli (41663973)

6.00 Wallace and Gromit in The Wrong Trousers. Oscar-winning animation. (r) (Ceefax) (s) (176)

6.30 Star Trek: The Next Generation. Timescape (Ceefax) (s) (528263)

7.15 Rocky Star. A cult Australian science-fiction spoof based on the 1950s radio series of the same name. (159466)

7.30 Sylvie Guillem. The dancer asks the American-born choreographer William Forsythe to create a solo piece for himself (s) (640)

8.00 The Abbey with Alan Bennett. A Mirror of England. Alan Bennett concludes his exploration of Westminster Abbey (Ceefax) (s) (370089)

8.50 Another Foot in the Past. The House That Time Forgot. The story of a suburban semi now owned by the National Trust. (r) (Ceefax) (418176)

9.00 The Likely Lads. Bob and Thelma are determined to enjoy the Christmas festivities (r) (Ceefax) (394195)

Heidi Fleiss plays hard to get (9.45pm)

9.45 CHOICE **Heidi Fleiss — Hollywood Madam** (Ceefax) (s) (231621)

11.30 A Great Day in Harlem. A musical documentary (Ceefax) (11398)

12.30am FILM: Mo' Better Blues (1990) with Denzel Washington and Wesley Snipes. An affectionate homage to jazz music. Directed by Spike Lee (19461)

2.30 Weatherview (5128374)

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CHOICE

Quirke and Robson join the Duchess (BBC1, 8.00pm)

Jobs for the Girls: Pauline and Linda Plan a Party
BBC1, 8.00pm

Pauline Quirke and Linda Robson bring their earthy charm and beginners' ignorance to the task of organising a charity ball for the Duchess of York. They have just two months and for the event to be successful they must attract up to 200 "big hitters", jargon for people willing to shell out £150 for a ticket. The narrative is the traditional one for these programmes as the chirpy pair seek the help of celebrities (cue Rolf Harris, Raymond Blanc and Anneka Rice) and despair, as time runs short, that they will ever get things done. Their promised cabaret, a "big-name comedian" and a "world-famous singer", proves particularly elusive. But it is an axiom of the format that disasters are avoided at the eleventh hour.

Sorry About Last Night
BBC1, 10.50pm

The plot of Alexei Sayle's wry comedy playlet is of two dull, middle-aged people trying to get smashed in London after the pubs have closed. Sayle himself plays Andy, just out of the Army and heir to the family sandwich bar. Siobhan Redmond, of the flaming red hair but minus her Scottish accent, is Julie, solicitor for persecuted left-wingers such as the Renault 4 (joke). They meet at a Labour Party bash, make a date and find mutual attraction as social misfits. Their constantly thwarted attempts to find an after-hours drink become as frustrating for them as they are irritating for us. But the proceedings are leavened by Sayle's characteristic musings on a capricious world and the story is touchingly resolved.

Heidi Fleiss: Hollywood Madam
BBC2, 9.45pm

Nick Broomfield has made his reputation with documentaries in which pursuit becomes as important as capture. His most notable quarry was Eugene Terre'Blanche, leader of the South African far Right. His latest subject, Heidi Fleiss, is the madam whose clients have allegedly included some of the big names of Hollywood. Like Terre'Blanche, Fleiss proves elusive. While he waits for her, Broomfield tracks down her friends and associates. Among the witnesses are Ivan (confusingly pronounced Yvonne) Nagy, Fleiss's lover of many years, former prostitutes, dodgy cops and Victoria Sellers, daughter of Peter. As a trawl through the seamier side of Los Angeles society the film has a certain fascination, but it is a long haul.

Circles of Deceit
ITV, 9.00pm

An unpromising pilot of two years ago has belatedly been promoted into a series, this time with a surer touch. Dennis Waterman stars as a former SAS officer reluctantly recruited by British intelligence. Barry Appleton's script stuffs in so much plot that there is little time for characterisation, and the plotting itself often begs credulity. But the result is a lively, incident-packed entertainment in which the only sure rule is that everybody is a scheming bastard except our hero. Corin Redgrave co-stars as an ambitious MP who is being blackmailed over a skeleton in the family cupboard. It is striking how, as he gets older, Redgrave is getting more and more to look and sound like his father, Sir Michael.

Peter Waymark

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV News and sport (8114176)

9.25 The New Adventures of He-Man (r) (8201824) **9.50 Batman — The Animated Series** (s) (1882602)

10.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (9413927)

10.30 FILM: The Story Lady (1990) A drama starring Jessica Tandy, directed by Larry Elikann (s) (63000805)

12.10pm Warner Cartoon (r) (3802824)

12.20 London Today (Teletext) (8152089)

12.30 News and weather (Teletext) (2910027)

12.55 Christmas in Coronation Street (r) (Teletext) (8800176)

2.00 Stuntmasters Dangerous lifestyles (4066911)

2.55 Disney Cartoon (r) (3724669)

3.05 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (8605244)

3.10 London Today (Teletext) (8620553)

3.15 FILM: Flash Gordon (1980). Lavish but silly version of the classic 1930s comic-strip adventure Directed by Mike Hodges. (Teletext) (s) (32236992)

5.10 After 5 with Caron Keating (Teletext) (2007008)

5.40 ITN News and weather (308379)

5.55 Your Shout. Viewers air their views (221737)

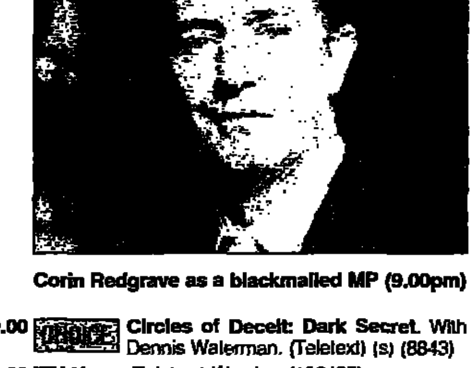
6.00 Home and Away Special: Shane and Angel — A Love Story. (Teletext) (602)

6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (282)

7.00 Wheel of Fortune Last in the series. With Nicky Campbell and Jenny Powell (s) (1783)

7.30 Coronation Street. Derek finally solves the mystery of Arthur, the missing gnome. (Teletext) (466)

8.00 Des O'Connor Tonight. Joined by Shirley Bassey and Frank Bruno (s) (5756)



Corin Redgrave as a blackmailed MP (9.00pm)

9.00 CHOICE **Circles of Deceit: Dark Secret**. With Dennis Waterman. (Teletext) (s) (8843)

11.00 ITN News (Teletext) Weather (126485)

11.15 London Tonight (Teletext) (497485)

11.25 FILM: The China Syndrome (1979). Science-fiction thriller with Jane Fonda as a television journalist who uncovers nuclear secrets. With Michael Douglas. Directed by James Bridges (67226060)

1.40am Endsleigh League Extra. Gabriel Clarke presents the comprehensive goals show (3601503)

2.25 FILM: Passion Flower (1986). A young bank executive starts a passionate affair with the married daughter of one of the wealthiest and most powerful men in steamy Singapore. With Bruce Boxleitner, Barbara Hershey and Nicol Williamson. Directed by Joseph Sargent (328935)

4.10 FILM: Off Beat (1986). A librarian who owes a friend a favour agrees to take his place in an audition for a police charity dance show where he falls for a policewoman. Starring Judge Reinhold, Meg Tilly and Harvey Keitel. Directed by Michael Dinner (3205003)

5.40 Profile. Country singer Emmylou Harris talks about her new album (s) (4864041)

5.55 ITN Morning News (8991652). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.40am Ulysses 31 (r) (1646282) **7.05 The Adventures Of T-Rex** (r) (2340244) **7.30 Little Dracula** (r) (29911)

8.00 The Big Breakfast (50599)

10.00 Saved by the Bell: The New Class (r) (Teletext) (5486963)

10.25 Babylon 5. Science-fiction (r). (Teletext) (s) (3098621)

11.20 California Dreams. Teen drama (r) (s) (8171783)

11.45 Biker Mice From Mars (s) (2178992) **12.10pm The Super Mario Bros** (r) (9338553) **12.20 Dennis**. Animated adventures (r) (8143331)

12.30 Channel 4 Racing From Kempton. Brough Scott introduces live coverage of the **12.40, 1.10, 1.40, 2.15 (Bonusprint Christmas Hurdle)** and **2.50** races (s) (61570640)

3.20 Lonely Planet. Fiji, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands (r) (s) (6322843)

4.05 FILM: Jason and the Argonauts (1963). Family viewing starring Todd Armstrong, Nancy Kovack, Gary Raymond, Honor Blackman and Jack Gwillim. Directed by Don Chaffey. (Teletext) (26202331)

6.00 The Crystal Maze (r). (Teletext) (s) (94824)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) Weather (1843)

7.30 Wild Britain. An Oxford Scientific Films documentary about what happens inside a nest box when a blue tit makes a home (r) (Teletext) (s) (468)

8.00 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (7263)

Jon Snow with a case for animal rights (8.30pm)

8.30 The Great Ape Trial. Jon Snow presents a courtroom trial with some of the world's most eminent scientists putting the case for and against the inclusion of apes in the community of equals. Putting the case for equality are Dr Jane Goodall, an expert on chimpanzee behaviour, Robin Dunbar, an evolutionary biologist, Peter Singer, an animal rights philosopher, and Sue Savage-Rumbaugh, a psychologist and linguist from Georgia State University. Arguing the case against are Professor Steven Pinker of MIT, Jon Marks, a geneticist from Yale University, Celia Heyes, a psychologist from University College, London, and Michael Leahy from the University of Kent. (Teletext) (s) (10909)

10.00 Northern Exposure. Off-beat comedy set in Alaska (6621). Followed by **Beastly X Mas: The Dove**. The mystery and illusion in Magritte's *La Clairvoyance*

11.00 FILM: Leon the Pig Farmer (1992) starring Mark Frankel. A surreal comedy about a Jewish estate agent who discovers that his biological father is a Yorkshire pig farmer. Directed by Vadim Jean and Gary Sinyor. (Teletext) (s) (237008)

12.50 FILM: The Naked Jungle (1953, b/w) starring Charlton Heston and Eleanor Parker. A South American jungle-set adventure drama about a plantation owner and his recently-arrived mail-order bride. Directed by Byron Haskin (856751)

2.35am Rawhide: Incident of the Burning Iron (b/w) (r) (7839549)

3.35 Cajun Country. Music (r) (9952225)

4.45 The World Of Hammer. The wicked women of Hammer Films (r) (54494596). Ends at **5.10**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 12.20pm-12.30 Anglia News (8152089) **3.10-3.15** Anglia News and Weather (8620553) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (2007008) **6.25** Anglia Weather (211485) **6.30-7.00** Anglia News (282) **11.15-11.25** Anglia News (497485) **2.25am** Film: Shogun (88316206) **4.45** Film: Follow the Leader (3149461)

CENTRAL
As London except: 10.25-10.30 Central News (5150485) **12.20pm-12.30** Central News and Weather (8152089) **3.10-3.15** Central News (8620553) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (2007008) **6.00** Home and Away (585447) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (200195) **11.15-11.25** Central News and Weather (497485)

GRANADA
As London except: 10.25-10.30 Granada News (5150485) **12.20pm-12.30** Granada News (8152089) **3.10-3.15** Granada News (8620553) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (2007008) **6.25** Granada News (211485) **6.30** Granada Tonight Special (282) **11.15-11.25** Granada News (497485)

HTV WEST
As London except: 10.25am-10.30 HTV West Headlines (5150485) **12.20pm-12.30** HTV West News and Weather (8152089) **3.10-3.15** HTV West Headlines (8620553) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (2007008) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (282) **11.15-11.25** HTV West Headlines and Weather (497485)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 10.25am-10.30 HTV News (5150485) **12.20pm-12.30** HTV News (8152089) **3.10-3.15** HTV Wales News (8620553) **6.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (282) **11.15-11.25** HTV Wales Headlines (497485)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 10.25am-10.30 Meridian News and Weather (5150485) **12.20pm-12.30** Meridian News and Weather (8152089) **3.10-3.15** Meridian News and Weather (8620553) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away Special (2007008) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (602) **6.30-7.00** What's My Line? (282) **11.15-11.25** Meridian News and Weather (497485) **2.25am** Film: Shogun (88316206) **4.45** Film: Follow the Leader (3149461)

SCOTTISH
As London except: 10.25am-10.30 Scotland Today Headlines (5150485) **12.20pm** Scotland Today (8161737) **12.25-12.30** Telefios (8160008) **12.55** Scotland Today (5229089) **1.20** Time of Your Life (44065282) **1.50-2.00** Passport Pics (73712973) **3.10-3.15** Scotland Today (8620553) **5.10-5.40** Wheel of Fortune (2007008) **6.30** Scotland Today: Weather (282) **7.00-7.30** Chart Bite (1783) **11.15-11.25** Scotland Today; Weather (497485) **1.40am** The Chart Show (5527193) **2.35** Film. The Outsider (750645) **4.25** Film. Life With the Lyons (1953, b/w) starring Bebe Daniels, Ben Lyon and Barbara Lyon (2128138) **5.50** Scotland Today Headlines (1467428)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 10.25-10.30 Tyne Tees News (5150485) **12.20pm-12.30** Tyne Tees News (8152089) **3.10-3.15** Tyne Tees News (8620553) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away Special (2007008) **5.55** Tyne Tees Today (597008) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (282) **11.15-11.25** Tyne Tees News (497485) **4.10am** Film: Dennis (852003)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 10.25-10.30 Westcountry News (5150485) **12.20pm-12.30** Westcountry News (8152089) **3.10-3.15** Westcountry News (8620553) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away Special (2007008) **6.00** Westcountry Live (602) **6.30-7.00** Voices From the Dark (282) **11.15-11.25** Westcountry News; Weather (497485)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 10.25am-10.30 Calendar News and Weather (5150485) **12.20pm-12.30** Calendar News and Weather (8152089) **3.10-3.15** Calendar News (8620553) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away Special (2007008) **5.55** Calendar (597008) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (282) **11.15-11.25** Calendar News and Weather (497485) **4.10am** Film: Dennis (852003)

S4C
Starts: 7.05 The Adventures Of T- Rex (2340244) *7.30 Little Dracula (29911)* **8.00** The Big Breakfast (50599) **10.00** Saved By The Bell : The New Class (5486963) **10.25** Babylon 5 (3098621) **11.20** California Dreams (8171783) **11.45** Aaahh!!! Real Monsters! (4273350) **12.00pm** Slot Meithrin (79027) **12.30** Channel 4 Racing From Kempton (61570640) **3.20** The World Of Jim Henson (19154973) **5.00** The Adventures Of Mole (6094) **6.00** Newyddion (935669) **6.10** 5 Pump: Rownd A Rownd (945805) **6.25** 5 Pump. Stal Nadolig (208737) **7.00** Yng Ngolau Seren Wib: Richard Burton (7350) **8.00** 5 Comic Ar Drywydd Gwalia Gwyllt (7263) **8.30** Newyddion (160027) **8.45** Lleifior (703824) **9.45** Blue Christmas (861447) **10.00** Brookside (70756) **10.30** Northern Exposure (665534) **11.25** Film: Another Pair Of Aces — Three Of A Kind (228485)

SATELLITE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY ONE
7.00am The DJ Kat Show (90843) **8.00** *Mighty Morphin* (87060) **8.30** Press Your Luck (86331) **9.00** Court TV (65981) **9.30** Oprah Winfrey (79331) **10.30** Concentration (65945) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (52263) **12.00** Jeopardy (97447) **12.30pm** Murphy Brown (39911) **1.00** The Waltons (34466) **2.00** Geraldo (36737) **3.00** Court TV (9640) **3.30** Oprah Winfrey (8102621) **4.20** Mighty Morphin (3226282) **4.40** Shoot! (5333466) **5.00** Star Trek (8832) **6.00** The Simpsons (8244) **6.30** Jeopardy (2824) **7.00** LAPD (1621) **7.30** M*A*S*H (8008) **8.00** The Bible: Joseph (75737) **10.00** Star Trek (54244) **11.00** Law and Order (73756) **12.00** David Letterman (8711119) **12.45am** The Untouchables (6159770) **1.30** The Edge (57157) **2.00-6.00** Hit Mix (7654461)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise (9461485) **10.30** ABC Nightline (65927) **11.00** Business (39447) **11.30** Year in Review — Ireland (60114) **1.30pm** CBS News (49602) **2.30** CBS News (10379) **3.30** Destinations (4682) **4.00** Business (9737) **4.30** Year in Review — Africa (8621) **5.00** Live at Five (6534) **6.30** Adam Boulton (28398) **7.30** Year in Review — Ireland (23027) **8.30** Newsmaker (4718) **9.00** Business (42911) **9.30** Year in Review — Africa (95398) **11.30** CBS News (48027) **12.30am** ABC News (72954) **1.30** Adam Boulton (39206) **2.30** Target (13157) **3.30** Destinations (85374) **4.30** CBS News (79312) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (43770)

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Showcase (92624) **8.00 David Copperfield (1934)** (69245195) **10.10 The Spy in the Green Hat (1966)** (30256824) **12.00 Meteor (1979)** (33640) **2.00pm The Age of Innocence (1993)** (62130843) **4.20 The Lemon Sisters (1990)** (51669718) **6.00 Me and the Kid (1994)** (20447) **7.30 E! News Week in Review** (3176) **8.00 The Chase (1994)** (60805) **10.00 My Father, The Hero (1994)** (404718) **11.35 Hollywood Dreams (1992)** (461640) **1.05am Web of Deceit (1994)** (988596) **2.35 Flirting (1990)** (643918) **4.15-6.00 The Lemon Sisters (1990)** (497190)

SKY MOVIES GOLD
4.00pm The File on Thelma Jordon (1949) (7486) **6.00 Fancy Pants (1950)** (54282) **8.00 The Assassination Bureau (1968)** (66027) **10.00 Red Scorpion (1989)** (237447) **11.50 1984 (1984)** (618244) **1.40-3.15am Une Histoire Inventée (1990)** (260995)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am In Name Only (1939) (90466) **8.00 Top Cat and the Beverly Hills Cats** (18331) **10.00 Groundhog Day (1993)** (48669) **12.00 A Home of Our Own (1994)** (31282) **2.00pm A Young Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court (1994)** (76466) **4.00 Yogi Bear and the Invasion of the Space Bears** (3466) **6.00 Groundhog Day (1993)** (56602) **8.00 Wayne's World 2 (1993)** (68447) **10.00 Tombstone (1993)** (52524282) **12.10am Assault at West Point: The Court-Martial of Johnson Whittaker (1994)** (888225) **1.45 Gas, Food, Lodging (1992)** (647206) **3.30-5.30 Mercy Mission: The Rescue of Flight 771 (1993)** (228225)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL
Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm to 4am.
6.00am Under the Umbrella Tree (45057805) **6.30** Muppet Babies (33069244) **7.00** Pooh (36822602) **7.30** Ducktales (36841737) **8.00** Chip (29204534) **8.30** Wonderland (29203805) **9.00** Fraggle Rock (29227485) **9.30** Pooh Corner (63042089) **10.00** Dumbo's Circus (33083824) **10.30** Quack Attack (29223669) **11.00** Disney Presents (36850485) **12.00** FILM: Windrunner (33063063) **2.00pm** Wonderland (70870195) **2.30** Under the Umbrella Tree (62868553) **3.00** Fraggle Rock (70859602) **3.30** Pooh (62870398) **4.00** Quack Attack (62859805) **4.30** Ducktales (62855089) **5.00** Chip 'n' Dale Rescue Rangers (70851447) **5.30** Danger Bay (62879669) **6.00** Tarzan (62869282) **6.30** Dinosaurs (62850534) **7.00** The Disney Magic Show (68932669) **8.00** Sinbad (70850331) **8.30** The Torkelsons (70879466) **9.00-10.00** Voyager (68921553)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Motors (94027) **9.00** Football (74911) **11.00** Euroski (79089) **11.30** Athletics (69094) **1.30pm** Equestrianism (10114) **2.30** Basketball (41263) **3.30** Rally Raid (44669) **4.30** Adventure (92911) **5.30** Rally Raid (98669) **6.30** News (4602) **7.00** Kick Boxing (83355) **8.00** Aerobics (11553) **9.00** Truck Racing (83319) **10.00** Trial (33896) **11.00** Equestrianism (99718) **12.00-12.30am** Eurosport News (75393)

SKY SPORTS
7.00am Sports Centre (88602) **7.30** Racing News (78927) **8.00** Cricket: South Africa v England (5297621) **3.30pm** WDC Darts (80824) **5.30** Football: Manchester Utd v Newcastle Utd (787379) **8.00** Football Special: Bolton v Leeds Utd (34857114) *10.15 WDC Darts Championships (766060)* **12.00** Cricket (98041) **1.30** Football Special (39409) **3.30-4.00** Sports Centre (33138)

Jack Hawkins in the war drama *The Cruel Sea* (Bravo, 4.00pm)

SKY SPORTS GOLD
10.00pm Rugby Hall of Fame: Serge Blanco (2623379) **10.30** World Cup Classics: Brazil v Italy 1970 (4356843) **12.00** Blood Sweat and Glory (3022119) **12.30-1.00am** Second Innings (8019138)

SKY SOAP
7.00am Guiding Light (4555621) **7.55** As the World Turns (7898485) **8.50** Peyton Place (4589331) **9.20** Days of Our Lives (4643331) **10.10** Another World

SKY TRAVEL
11.00am Globetrotter (1919263) **11.30** Video Trips (1910992) **12.00** Italy (2615350) **12.30pm** Frugual Gourmet Cooks Italian (2995737) **1.00** Around the World in 30 Minutes (8579076) **1.30** Travel Guide (2994008) **2.00** Roads to Freedom (4528027) **2.30** Discover Your World (2694398) *3.00 Getaway (4907534)* **3.30-4.00** Boomerang (2699843)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL
4.00pm Our Century (1933843) **5.00** Memories of 1973 (4921114) **6.00-7.00** Biography Special: Charles Dickens (2903756)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL
7.00pm Inside Space (4922843) **7.30-10.00** FILM: Star Trek: The Motion Picture (2480621)

TLC
9.00am-12.30pm Two's Country (8475602) **12.30-4.00** Go Fishing (8490911)

UK GOLD
7.00am Angels (1288398) **7.30** Neighbours (1267805) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (9731350) **8.30** EastEnders (9730621) **9.00** The Bill (9721973) **9.30** The Sullivans (1670282) **10.00** All Creatures Great and Small (1263089) **11.00** Dallas (1276553) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (9741737) **12.30pm** Neighbours (1681398) **1.00** EastEnders (1287669) **1.30** The Bill (1680669) **2.00** The Sullivans (48197391) **2.25** Are You Being Served? (3761553) **3.00** Angels (7667911) *3.30 Eldorado (8273973)* **4.00** Allo Allo (1631805) **5.00** Larry Grayson's Generation Game (94330640) **6.05** Kenny's Comic Cuts (1234089) **6.25** EastEnders (2617756) **7.00** Eldorado (7659992) **7.30** The Liver Birds (8282621) **8.00** FILM: Doctor in Clover (5007008) **10.00** The Bill (6864669) **10.35** The Best of Top of the Pops (95101466) **11.50** Dr Who (4102843) *12.20am Public Eye (5486138)* **1.20** Triangle (9908480) **1.50** Shopping (20197480)

TCC
6.00am Animated Classic Showcase (7449909) **6.45** Tiny (1414379) **7.00** Barney (40263) **7.30** Happily Ever After (69398) **8.00** Earthworm Jim (69027) **8.30** Eek (68398) *9.00 Garfield (42350)* **9.30** Where's Wally? (97398) **10.00** Skeleton Warriors (11263) **10.30** Battletech (48534) **11.00** AJ's Time Travellers (28379) **11.30** The Babysitters' Club (29008) **12.00** Art Attack (1521517) **12.15pm** Dish of the Day (4942466) **12.30** No Naked Flames (91114) **1.00** Heartbreak High (96669) **2.00** The Tick (7089) **2.30** Ready or Not (1911) **3.00** Sweet Valley High (9824) *3.30 Hang Time (3756)* **4.00** California (2263) **4.30-5.00** Madison (8447)

NICKELODEON
6.00am Blue, Child of the Earth (61718) **6.30** Duckula (88756) **7.00** Batfink (1264350) **7.05** Hero Turtles (3202089) **7.45** Rugrats (292973) **8.15** Doug (394605) **8.45** Rocko (5017669) **9.00** Rude Dog (46898) **9.30** Clarissa (33176) **10.00** Rugrats (77008) **10.30** Pete (93060) **11.00** Christmas Every Day (75263) **11.30** Doug (76992) **12.00** Rocko (17640) **12.30pm** !! Real Monsters (37992) **1.00** Ship to Shore (18843) **1.30** Dungeons (83060) **2.30** Galaxy (5195) **3.00** Kissyfur (3008) **3.30** The Littlest Pet Shop (4440) **4.00** Hero Turtles (6447) **4.30** Rugrats (5331) **5.00** Clarissa (8553) **5.30** Wishbone (9911) **6.00** Doug (6824) **6.30** Are You Afraid? (7176) **7.00** Ferris Bueller (5089) **7.30-8.00** Sister Sister (6060)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm Driving Passions (8283350) **4.30** Voyager (8289534) **5.00** The Dinosaurs! (7656805) **6.00** Invention (8200027) **6.30** Beyond 2000 (1128805) **7.30** The Science of Star Trek (8280263) **8.00** History's Mysteries (7666282) **8.30** Top Marques (7652089) **9.00** Seawings (5014398) **10.00** Into the Unknown (5017485) **11.00** Voyager (1630176) **11.30-12.00** Nature Watch (6935008)

BRAVO
12.00 FILM: Curse of the Pink Panther (6946114) **2.00pm** The Saint (6934379) **3.00** *Scotland Yard (7669379)* *3.30 Man from Interpol (8208669)* **4.00** FILM: The Cruel Sea (5152263) **6.30** The Critic (8288805) **7.00** The Critic **7.30** The Protectors (8284089) **8.00** The Saint (5081060) **9.00** Sapphire and Steel (1655485) **9.30** Dead at 21 (1656602) **10.00-12.00** FILM: Creepshow (1646737)

UK LIVING
6.00am Agony Hour (7010911) **7.00** Living Magazine (6808553) **9.00** Bazaar (2700008) **9.30** Kate and Allie (5896060) **10.00** Hearts of Gold (5425466) **10.55** Entertainment Now! (21379805) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (3671176) **11.55** Delia Smith's Christmas (5724008) **12.30pm** Brookside (5256398) **1.05** Kilroy (1792905) **2.00** FILM: *Joshua's Heart (4217621)* **3.50** Entertainment Now! (86524992) **4.00** Infatuation UK (8166602) **4.30** Crosswits (7210466) **5.05** The Joker's Wild (59024534) **5.30** The Young and the Restless (9252621) **6.30** Brookside (6561911) **7.05** Infatuation UK (9454945) **7.35** The Joker's Wild (2071260) **8.00** The Brides of Christ (4076973) **9.00** Cagney and Lacey (4096737) **10.00** Charlie's Angels (4099824) **11.00-12.00** Love Life (5895089)

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00pm FILM: A Hobo's Christmas (58521398) **6.50** FILM: The Boy with Green Hair (8853331) **8.20** FILM: Who? (84824089) **10.05** FILM: Cry Wilderness (341640) **11.50** FILM: A Hobo's Christmas (621718) **1.40am** FILM: Who? (701138) **3.20-5.00** FILM: Cry Wilderness (707848)

MTV
6.30am The Grind (39669) **7.00** 3 from 1 (8076553) **7.15** Awake on the Wildside (4616114) **8.00** Music Videos (943008) **10.30** Rockumentary (40992) **11.00** Soul (47176) **12.00** Greatest Hits (89379) **1.00pm** Music Non-Stop (22913553) **2.45** 3 from 1 (3386027) **3.00** Cinematic (8402027) **3.15** Hanging Out (7835553) **4.00** News (2102621) **4.15** Hanging Out (2192244) **4.30** Dial MTV (1356) **5.00** The Zig and Zag Show (3027) **5.30** Hanging Out (21195) **7.00** Greatest Hits (51195) **8.00** MTV (73089) **9.30** Beavis and Butthead (80008) **10.00** News (977805) **10.15** Cinematic (965060) **10.30** The State (41621) **11.00** The End? (46756) **12.30am** Videos (9449480)

VH-1
7.00am Power Breakfast (9929517) **9.00** Christmas Café (1874669) **12.00** VH-100 for You (2976602) **1.00pm** The Vinyl Years (2985350) **2.00** Ten of the Best: Jon Bon Jovi (9657244) **3.00** Into the Christmas Music (3577350) **6.00** VH-1-2-3: Meriah Carey (2905114) **7.00** VH-100 for You (6103089) **8.00** Egos and Icons: Peter Gabriel (6112737) **9.00** Ten of the Best: Luther Vandross (6192973) **10.00** The Vinyl Years (6195060) **11.00** The Xmas Nightly (8376244) **1.00am** Ten of the Best (1162935) **2.00** Dawn Patrol

ZEE TV
7.00am Asian Morning (97615089) **9.30** Urdu Serial: Banile Bigadie (86825282) **10.30** Namaste India (14945058) **11.00** Tara (64611027) **12.00** Dekh Bhai Dekh (34745850) **12.30pm** Hit Thi Hit Hai (62915466) **1.00** Urdu FILM (25994282) **4.00** Zee Presents (44031350) **5.00** Zee Zone (59122060) **5.30** Bengali Serial: Phire Elam (21144824) **6.00** Campus (21141737) **6.30** Zee and U (21132089) **7.00** Aap Ki Adalat (59142824) **7.30** Film Deewane (21121973) **8.00** News (59128244) **8.30** Banegi Apni Baat (59147379) **9.00-12.00** Hindi FILM (59687927)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT
Continuous cartoons from 5am to 9pm, then TNT films as below.
7.00pm The Long, Long Trailer (1954) (36840008) **9.00 Brainstorm (1983)** (68919718) **11.00 Mrs Soffel (1984)** (96816756) **1.00am The Romantic Englishwoman (1975)** (19105954) **3.05-5.00 Bride to Be (1974)** (36474190)

CNN/QVC
CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel.

INS AND OUTS 38

MANAGEMENT DEALS ARE ON THE RISE

BUSINESS

TAKE-OFF 38

PLANEMAKERS WELCOME DEMAND FOR AIRCRAFT

RK

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 27 1995

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK

Halifax forecasts 2% recovery in house prices next year

BY ROBERT MILLER

THE housing market will receive a much-needed boost today from a forecast by Britain's largest mortgage lender of a 2 per cent recovery in house prices during 1996.

The Halifax Building Society, in its annual housing market paper, predicts that next year will see the fragile market start to emerge "from a double-dip recession".

The recovery would have been even stronger, it says, had the Chancellor, announced specific housing measures, such as the abolition of stamp duty, in his November Budget. Nevertheless, "the prospects for 1997 and onwards do look more promising than at any time since the 1980s".

The prediction will bring a ray of hope to more than a million people caught in the negative equity trap and help a similar number of families with neutral equity who cannot afford to move because of the associated costs and fees.

A 2 per cent rise would lift the value of an average British home by £1,247 to £63,579. But with rises of at least 5 per cent predicted by the Halifax for 1997 and 1998, the value of the average home would reach £70,095 in three years' time.

Transactions — regarded as the key to any sustainable recovery in the market — will also recover in 1996 from their 10 per cent decline this year, the Halifax says. Transactions are forecast to rise by at least 5 per cent in 1997 and in 1998.

The concern for mortgage lenders in general is that while the UK economy has been recovering since late 1992, the housing market appears to have become "decoupled" from the recovery process since 1993. The Halifax blames government policies for this, citing sterling's exit from the exchange-rate mechanism in September 1992 and subsequent efforts to stimulate the market by the temporary abolition of stamp duty.

After the August 1993 deadline expired and the duty was reimposed, "the housing market became extremely depressed, with monthly levels of transactions falling below 80,000 for the first time in many years". Then, the society adds: "We continued to see the withdrawal of subsidies with the further reduction of mortgage tax relief to 15 per cent and the announcement in the Budget of 1994 of the cutbacks in income support for mortgage interest payments. Secondly, despite interest rates falling to historically low levels in nominal terms, inflation and, in particular, house price inflation, also fell, leaving rates high in real terms."

The steep rises in personal tax levels in 1993 and 1994 also held back any recovery in the sector. The Halifax, which has more than two million borrowers, says the housing market has also been affected by a lack of consumer confidence and the "feel-good" factor.

"Although unemployment fell, the type of employment created was not in the main traditional jobs for full-time male employees, but either part-time employment for females or self-employment or short-term contracts. Perceived job security remained low." With personal tax cuts due to feed through from April coupled with lower monthly mortgage payments, the number of house purchases could rise "quite sharply" in 1996, reversing this year's 10 per cent fall. There is even the possibility of "a mini-boom in 1997, with both transactions and house prices rising by up to 10 per cent".

The Halifax concludes: "The housing market experienced the second dip of the double recession in 1994 and 1995. We believe the worst is now over and the real recovery is about to begin."

Asda launches new challenge in drugs war

BY SARAH BAGNALL

ARCHIE NORMAN, chief executive at Asda, is set to trigger a price war in the UK drugs market with the launch of a wide range of own-label vitamins and minerals at highly competitive prices.

The move, planned for the new year, follows Asda's recent attack on the UK's last legal price-fixing agreement, the right of manufacturers to set prices on non-prescription medicines, a market worth £1.3 billion.

Boots, the rival retailer, will be the primary target of Asda's price-cutting, but other supermarkets and specialist chains, such as Lloyd's Chemist, will also find their margins under pressure.

Two months ago, in defiance of the 25-year agreement, Asda slashed the prices of 80 branded products such as Sanatogen and Seven Seas. Britain's third-biggest supermarket group was forced to backtrack after the drugs manufacturers won injunctions against the group. However, the challenge caused nervousness in the City and prompted sharp falls in the shares of high street chemist chains, including Boots and Lloyd's Chemists.

In doing so, Mr Norman, who played a key role in the demise of the net book agreement, triggered a review of price maintenance of resale drugs by the Office of Fair Trading, which has yet to publish its conclusions.

Rather than wait for the outcome of the OFT inquiry, Asda has opted to repackage and expand its own range of medications, the pricing of which falls outside the auspices of the price-fixing agreement. As a result, Asda will be able to offer non-prescription medicines to its 5.5 million customers at prices markedly below those charged for branded products.

Gwyn Wilson, head of Asda's development division, said: "We are going to introduce products that are equivalent to Seven Seas and Sanatogen brands at spectacular value." Asda intends to undercut Boots' prices, which are typically 15 per cent less than those of branded products. Mrs Wilson said: "The pricing has yet to be decided, but we can easily go below 15 per cent and we fully intend to be cheaper than Boots." The move is likely to cause concern in the City as a price war will threaten the profits and market shares of the rival chains.

Asda's current range comprises 17 basic lines, such as iron tablets, multivitamins and cod liver oil. But early next year, the range will be extended to more than 50 products. "If successful, we will increase the range even further," said Mrs Wilson.

Asda is also launching a raft of other own-label products. Mr Norman said: "We are planning some fairly major launches in the first few months of next year in toiletries, babycare, detergents, bacon and provisions, and pet food."

Own-label penetration at Asda currently stands as 34 per cent, having moved up from a low point of about 26 per cent. "We think it should be well above 40 per cent," said Mr Norman.

Own-label sales are more profitable than branded products and as a result, food retailers are keen to increase them. J Sainsbury has been particularly successful and own-label sales now account for more than 55 per cent of total sales.

PETER TREVINOR

Archie Norman, chief executive, helps to pack bags at the Asda store in Clapham, south London, as customers take advantage of the group's offer of all-night shopping over the Christmas period in three of its stores. More than 13,000 customers, including partygoers attired in black tie and ballgowns, flocked to the three stores during the period

Whitbread poised for Forte deal

Whitbread, the brewing and hotels group, will today make a £1 billion agreed offer for Forte's restaurant operations.

The sale, which includes Forte's 335 Little Chef outlets, its 84 Happy Eater roadside restaurants and 26 Welcome Break motorway service stations, will be concluded only if Forte's shareholders reject a hostile £3.3 billion takeover bid from Granada.

Advisers to the two sides finalised details over the Christmas break after Sir Rocco Forte, chairman of Forte, and Peter Jarvis, chief executive of Whitbread, reached agreement in principle on Friday.

The offer will value the restaurant business at just over £1 billion. Forte hopes to use the cash from the sale to cut its £1.3 billion debt mountain. Granada has until January 9 to raise its offer. The closing date for its bid is January 23.

Lamont moves

Norman Lamont, the former chancellor, is leaving NM Rothschild, the investment bank, to join Jupiter Asset Management, the fund manager. He is a director of five Jupiter funds and will be the launch chairman of a new Jupiter trust, the Archipelago Fund, to be listed in Luxembourg. The trust will raise up to $120 million from investors with Malaysia's Johore State Economic Development Corporation subscribing for half.

BT broadcasts

BT is to invest several billions of pounds over the next five years to build an information superhighway that will enable it to broadcast live entertainment into customers' homes by 2001. A spokesman confirmed that BT would start a two-year technology trial next year.

Twin financial regulators urged

BY PATRICIA TEHAN
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

A FORMER Bank of England supervisor is calling for an overhaul of regulation of financial services and the replacement of the Bank, the Securities and Investment Board and other regulators by two new commissions. Michael Taylor, who left the Bank a year ago to run a degree course in financial regulation at London Guildhall University, says Britain needs a new financial stability commission and a consumer protection commission.

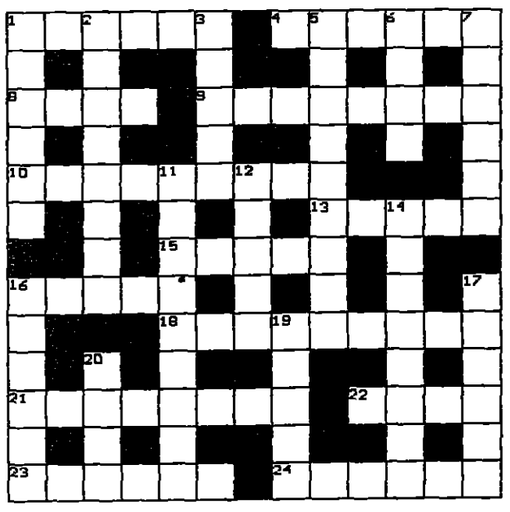
In a paper published today by the Centre for the Study of Financial Innovation, Mr Taylor says the present system lacks coherence and needs to be aligned "with the realities of today's financial market place".

He says the system has been created by "piecemeal" responses to specific events or to fill perceived gaps". As a result, the twin objectives of regulation, to ensure a sound financial system and to protect consumers from unscrupulous operators, "have been parcelled out among a multiplicity of agencies ... with little attempt to consider their inter-relationship".

☐ *Twin Peaks: a regulatory structure for the new century.* Price £25 from CSFI. Tel: 0171 493 0173.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 662



ACROSS
1 Divided Med. island (6)
4 On the sea (6)
8 Obligation (4)
9 Protective glove (8)
10 Rash (9)
13 16C royal house (5)
15 Melting snow (5)
16 Long, low, hard seat (5)
18 One reflecting spiritually (9)
21 Comment at bottom of page (8)
22 Consign to perdition (4)
23 Light breeze (6)
24 Walk as on eggshells (6)

DOWN
1 Organise (eg laws) into system (6)
2 Organism causing disease (8)
3 Greek S (5)
5 Well I never! (5,4)
6 Sole: but (4)
7 Tie up (animal) (6)
11 Payment for silence (4,5)
12 Delivery journey; some applause (5)
14 Divert (someone's attention) (8)
16 Sgt —, Mrs Bardell's counsel (Pickwick) (6)
17 Son of king (6)
19 Clumsy (5)
20 Liquid food (4)

SOLUTION TO No 661
ACROSS: 3 Disposal 7 Tipple 8 Hobbes 9 Caruso 10 In time 11 Dabs 13 Helix 15 Hear 17 Pacing 18 Hairdo 19 Thrive 20 Cotton 21 Hat trick
DOWN: 1 Cicada 2 Spouts 3 Devotee 4 Phoenix 5 Subtitle 6 Listener 11 Dis(s)patch 12 Baccarat 13 Hanover 14 In check 15 Hoists 16 And how

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD NO 658
In association with BRITISH MIDLAND
ACROSS: 1 Dilemma 5 Lamp 9 Divot 10 Soutane 11 Object-lesson 12 Beeton 13 Humbug 16 Give free rein 19 Expects 20 Trash 21 Redo 22 Success
DOWN: 1 Dido 2 Lovable 3 Matter-of-fact 4 Assets 6 Amass 7 Pfennig 8 Bureaucratic 12 Bugbear 14 Brigade 15 Census 17 Vapid 18 Thus

The names of the winners of The Times Two Crossword competition No 658 will be published on January 10.

SOLUTION TO NO 659
ACROSS: 1 Motif 7 Adapted 8 Curator 9 Throw in 11 Sadism 13 Hatchback 15 Raise Cain 19 Callow 21 Gazette 23 Verdant 24 Linkage 25 Wryly
DOWN: 1 Mocks 2 Tirade 3 Fetish 4 Cart 5 Aplomb 6 Bewitch 10 Hectic 12 Mascot 14 Fanatic 16 Sneaky 17 Narrow 18 Albany 20 Wetly 22 Even

Pension rules for partners must be changed, says TUC

BY ROBERT MILLER

STRICT rules that forbid hundreds of thousands of teachers, nurses, firemen and police officers from passing on pension benefits to their partners when they die must be changed as a matter of urgency, the TUC says.

In a new paper *Pensions and Prejudice*, published today, the TUC calls on the Government to make specific rule changes to the way in which six public sector schemes, covering more than three million workers, are run. These reforms would then ensure that common law and gay and lesbian partners could benefit from the £400 million in benefits withheld by the State.

The TUC argues that "a pension and a lump sum would be automatically paid if the couple had been married". It adds that the present regulations are "unfair, discriminatory and out-dated. The schemes should be brought up to date with current social trends and best practice in other schemes".

The TUC points out that the provision of dependent's benefits outside of marriage is widespread in many private sector pension schemes.

It suggests that following a cost assessment for each of the six public sector schemes involved, an agreed definition of dependency should be reached. This would be based on evidence such as shared mortgages, rent books and bill payments.

Private sector schemes that include provision for non-married dependents include those of Unilever, BP, British Telecom, British Gas and the John Lewis Partnership. The TUC report formalises its long-running battle to end discrimination against partners. It quotes the case of Angela Clark's fiancé, Gary Freeman, a CID officer, who was killed on duty in August 1994.

They had been together for five years and had a son, George, who was only two when his father was killed after 19 years' service and having paid 11 per cent of his salary into the Police Pension Scheme (PPS).

Under the PPS rules, Mr Freeman was never allowed to name Ms Clark as his beneficiary as they were not married. Had they been, she would have received an automatic annual pension of £9,000. Ms Freeman said the PPS rules were "immoral".

High times in venture business

BY SARAH BAGNALL

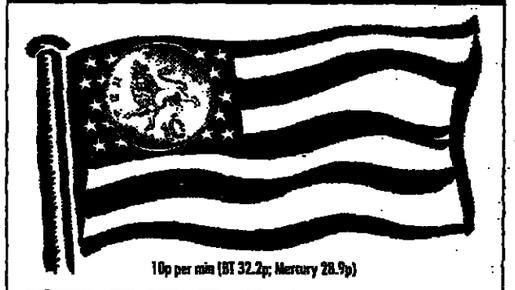
A SURGE in the management buyout and buy-in industry has produced a sellers' market, where companies are obtaining better prices for unwanted businesses than they would have received a few years ago.

Lucinda Horler Webber, of BZW Private Equity, said: "People are paying fuller prices for companies now." This is mainly because of the large amount of funds available. Chris Ward, of Touche Ross, said: "The venture capital industry is awash with money."

In 1995, more than £5 billion worth of deals were completed — 36 per cent more than last year and the most since a record £7 billion in 1989.

Growing industry, page 38

CALL THE LAND OF THE FREE FOR NEXT TO NOTHING.



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Hong Kong	35p	56p	37%
Japan	36p	75p	52%
Australia	19p	45p	57%
Brazil	60p	85p	29%
Canada	14p	29p	52%
Germany/France	18p	22p	18%
Israel	56p	70p	20%

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Coal Investments digs in for cash

Edwards: delays

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

MORE than 800 miners employed by Coal Investments will return to work four days early this morning to help to dig the company out of financial difficulty.

Working shifts round the clock, the men are expected to produce 40,000 tonnes of coal, generating more than £1 million of extra revenue.

Miners at the company, headed by Malcolm Edwards, former British Coal director, volunteered to cut short their holiday after the company's shares were suspended on December 19.

In a fax to employees explaining that the suspension would enable financial restructuring, Mr Edwards said delays in bringing new coal faces into production had resulted in a rundown of stocks pledged to its bankers as security for loans, and in cash flow below expectations.

The problem was compounded when it was discovered that planning permission was needed for a new face at Hem Heath Colliery, near Stoke-on-Trent, which was about to enter production. Staffordshire county councillors, concerned about possible effects of subsidence on buildings, refused consent.

Praising the "first class" response from employees, Mr Edwards said their willingness to work would increase the confidence of bankers and investors and make it easier to raise new funds. Selling more coal would also reduce the amount of money needed.

Coal Investments, Britain's second-biggest coal producer after RJB Mining, is understood to be seeking £15 million to £20 million. A slump in the shares reduced the company's value to just £25 million, so a one-for-one rights issue could be needed, although an issue of preference shares and further loans are being considered.